
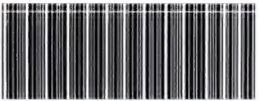





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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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If any publisher  
Letter would  
any line of govern-  
ment  
responsible  
will be glad to  
RLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

ws and Comment  
CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this  
column is to be used in any way you  
like, but it is suggested that if run as a  
Washington news letter it be given a  
Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—Distinct progress  
has been made during the past week in  
carrying into effect the President's re-  
construction program. The House of  
Representatives has passed the bill to  
increase capitalization of the Federal  
Land Banks by \$100,000,000, and the  
Senate committee has approved the  
measure with an amendment adding  
\$25,000,000 to that sum. As thus  
amended the bill doubtless will be passed  
by both Houses, perhaps already will  
have been passed by the time this arti-  
cle appears in print.

The purpose of this bill is to ease the  
mortgage worries of the farmers, being  
designed to supply the banks with funds  
to enable them to meet payments on  
bonds and make additional loans with-  
out forcing foreclosures on mortgages  
already recorded. The Federal Land  
Banks are to the farmer what the Fed-  
eral Reserve system is to industry. It  
sets up the machinery for long time  
farm loans so necessary to agriculture.  
The new measure will enlarge the use-  
fulness of the Land Banks and afford  
relief where it is greatly needed.

Another one of the President's meas-  
ures which is well on the way to the  
Emergency Reconstruction Corporation  
bill which will operate along the lines of  
the old War Finance Corporation. It  
calls for an original capitalization of  
\$100,000,000, all to be subscribed by  
government, with authority to issue  
bonds or other obligations on to a  
trust or other obligations on to a

## Something to Remember

Keep this thought in the forefront:  
The entire civilized world is in the  
throes of readjustment; never has  
there been a time when there has  
greater need for the trained genius  
of the Republican party as the di-  
recting force of our national admin-  
istration. Rather than to find fault  
because we are beset with difficulties;  
rather than to complain because  
times are hard; rather than to inveigh  
against President Hoover and his as-  
sociates because of the depression—  
rather than to assume any attitude  
of criticism, we should be thanking  
our lucky stars that we have a Her-  
bert Hoover at the head of our gov-  
ernment and that we are the most  
favored of all the nations of the  
world.

## "Hee! Haw!"

"The Pathfinder," a Washington mag-  
azine, some time ago offered prizes for  
party slogans. Three eminent Demo-  
cratic Senators: Morris Sheppard, of  
Texas; Royal S. Copeland, of New York,  
and Clarence C. Dill, of Washington,  
were asked to serve as a committee of  
award for the slogans entered for the  
Democratic party. There were near  
100,000 offerings, and from them all the  
Senator selected this:

"HEE! HAW! WE'RE COMING  
BACK!"

Without knowing what the other 99-  
one were it will be conceded at once  
that the selection of this one was in-  
evitable. It so precisely fits and re-  
flects the Democratic attitude toward a  
political victory. As one reads this  
slogan he can see the well known jackass,  
with its head up, its long ears probed  
forward and its heels flying as it races

## The Hungry Marches

The one outstanding fact about the two so-called "hunger  
marches" which have been precipitated upon Washington this  
winter that the country should not fail to note is that both of them  
had their genesis in politics and not in unemployment.

The first expedition was frankly avowed to be communistic in  
its inspiration, conduct and purpose, designed to create sentiment  
against the Government of the United States. The second was  
inspired by political antagonism to President Hoover, led by men  
conspicuous in political circles for their opposition to him, and  
deliberately planned to arouse public sentiment against him.

That the purpose behind both of these expeditions was politi-  
cal rather than economic any child must know. The marchers  
brought no information to Washington which was not already  
common property there as it is over the country generally. The  
petitions for relief which they presented to Congress and to the  
President could have been handled just as effectively through the  
mails. There was absolutely no point to be made by bringing the  
several thousand men to the National Capital—except a political  
point.

The manner in which the marches were made in itself con-  
tradicts the pretended purpose behind them. Both armies came  
in automobiles and auto trucks. Both brought brass bands with  
them. In the case of the last army a very considerable part of  
its membership did not join in the parade to the Capitol which  
was supposed to be the chief function in which they should en-  
gage, but scattered about the city taking in the sights like any  
tourists. One of the men who collapsed, not from hunger but  
from nervous excitement, and was taken to a hospital, was found  
wearing a diamond ring and having \$1,000 in currency upon his  
person. Of course this exceptional case does not prove that all the  
marchers were supplied with funds. It is obvious, however, that  
a cavalcade of 2,200 motor vehicles with hired drivers could not  
be brought together for a journey of 1,000 miles by men who were  
wholly indigent. There was not only organization behind the en-  
terprise, but a very considerable amount of money, which cer-  
tainly would have been better expended relieving the families of  
those who needed relief than in sending some thousands of men  
on an utterly fruitless journey.

Things have come to a sorry pass when men are willing to  
resort to "playing politics with human misery" in an effort to  
discredit the President of the United States in order to win a  
party victory.

## Preserve the Home Markets

The Magazine of Wall Street: If  
we are to accelerate the pace of busi-  
ness most effectively we must pre-  
serve home markets for ourselves!  
Competition of foreign goods is in-  
creasing in our own stores and shops  
despite tariff barriers. It is time we  
took a leaf out of Great Britain's  
book to "buy British goods only."  
If we ignore low-priced foreign mer-  
chandise it will foster our own indus-  
trial production and speed the return  
of prosperity. It will solve the prob-  
lem of unemployment. Every Amer-  
ican made goods and put every man  
back on the job! It is a sound slogan  
for domestic recovery. If everyone  
followed that practice the new year  
could be viewed not only with equan-  
imity but with high rejoicing and the  
United States would rapidly lead the  
way out of depression.

International confidence cannot be  
built upon fear—it must be built  
upon good will. The whole history of  
the world is filled with chapter after  
chapter of the failure to secure peace  
through either competitive arms or in-  
timidation.

## The Democratic Tariff Bill

For two years Democratic leaders in  
the House and Senate have been de-  
nouncing the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill in  
unmeasured terms, declaring that its  
rates are extortionate, wholly beyond  
reason and in every way damaging to  
American interests.  
And now that they are in control of  
the House, with an easy possibility that  
they also may control the Senate

## Another Hoover Program

In a supplementary message to Con-  
gress President Hoover has again brought  
to the attention of that body  
interested himself for ten  
toward the accomplishment of  
already has made important  
contributions—and that is the reorganizing  
governmental activities in the field of adminis-  
tration as well. Insisting, as he never  
fails to do on all proper occasions, that  
the important, imperative need just at  
this time is a "rigid reduction of appro-  
priations and resolute opposition to  
new appropriations, the President sees  
in the consolidation of government de-  
partments a general reorganization of the  
Federal government, the most construc-  
tive direction for the practice of econ-  
omy in Federal expenditures. Among  
the reorganizations he urges would be  
the consolidation of all constructive activi-  
ties of the government under an Adminis-  
trator of Public Works to serve all  
the departments; the consolidation of all  
merchant marine activities into the De-  
partment of Commerce; the consolida-  
tion of the conservation activities of the  
government; the consolidation of the  
public health service; of educational ac-  
tivities and numerous other groups on  
the same major purposes under single-  
headed responsibilities. Such action the  
President declares would result in the  
elimination of many expensive agencies  
and overlap, resulting in economies  
which would run into many millions. In  
addition to the actual economy by con-  
centrated administration and elimination  
of overlap, further great saving would  
be brought about through the central-  
ment of the self-sustaining capacity of  
scattered bureaus which could be much  
better controlled if they were grouped  
together. It would enable policies in  
connection with different government ac-  
tivities to be better coordinated and bet-

The aim  
legislative  
from the Com-  
confident prop-  
done in the name  
liberty, but the result  
is that the people and  
ress retarded and their  
talled.—Calvin Coolidge.



X-JK 2352

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

NOTE TO EDITORS: This service is furnished weekly by the Republican National Committee, Barr Building, Washington, D. C. All material may be used without credit except cartoons and stories reprinted from other publications in which case credit must be given as designated. Unless otherwise noted all copy is for release upon receipt.

JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of publicity.

THE WAGNER BILL.  
"No one need question the sincerity of President Hoover's expressed regret that he felt compelled to withhold approval from Senator Wagner's employment bill, but Senator Wagner's employment bill, not being himself to stand in a Democratic senatorial seat, but he had previously decided and pressed to enactment by a Democratic senator, Senator Wagner's bill, as he states, had he not found serious difficulties in the way of making it effective."  
—New York Tribune.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 3rd March Issue, 1931

No. 39

## Political Wheels of Washington

By JAMES L. WEST

### The President's Holiday

Congress has adjourned. The professional patriot who engages in shadow-boxing with mythical dragons labelled "Power trust" and "Wall Street" have put their perennial cur-calls back in the box and lapsed into temporary quiescence. But the President keeps on working. Taking what is described as a vacation—the first in two years—Mr. Hoover is visiting our territories in the Caribbean as the agent of the people of the United States to whom is entrusted the task and the responsibility of furthering the welfare of all citizens of the Republic.

The President's visit to Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands is a tangible illustration to the islanders that they are an integral part of the United States and his personal tour augurs well for their social and economic future. His conferences with Governor Theodore Roosevelt at San Juan and with Mr. Pearson—the new civil governor—of St. Thomas will be of benefit to the islands and to the United States.

Both of these island possessions have suffered from hurricanes and agricultural and economic reverses. Under the supervision of Governor Roosevelt conditions at Porto Rico have shown a decided improvement and the new governor of the Virgin Islands brings to his task of rehabilitation the experience in dealing with the problems of smaller villages.

There was more talk of the debenture of the tariff of unemployment of water-power and of many other subjects but there wasn't a single concrete proposal for the cure of a single ill about which there was so much lament except that the government should go into the electric light and power business in competition with its citizens.

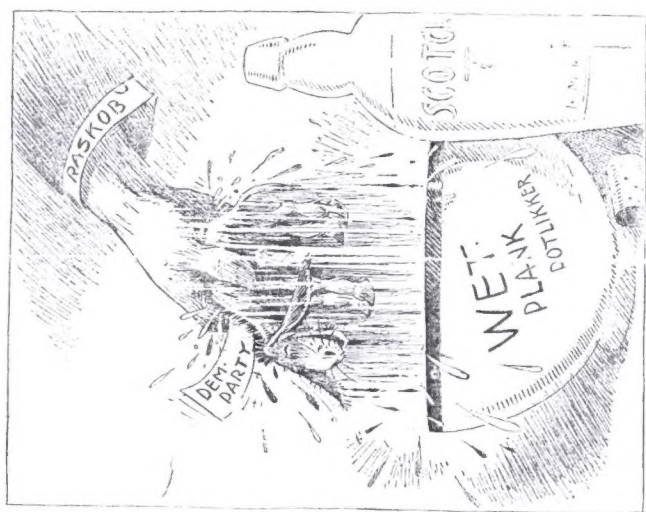
Commissions were set up to study agriculture relief and other problems which have been debated for more than a decade and the solution of which already has been undertaken by the administration in a concrete way.

And there certainly was irony in the Progressive resorting to Commissions to study and solve these problems for one of their complaints against the Administration was that too many Commissions were being appointed to solve problems of government and of relief.

The country had been led to believe that solutions for the problems would be forthcoming immediately. But when the "last people of the Progressive"

## DONKEY DUNKING!

Copyright, 1931, New York Tribune, Inc.



Drawn in the New York Herald Tribune

## DID YOU KNOW—

That 1931, the third year of the Hoover administration, will see an ex-

## TIMELY FARM TALKS ON RADIO PROGRAM

Two members of the Bureau of Ex-

## NEW YORK CITY PROBE EXPECTED DESPITE TAMMANY OPPOSITION

### Inquiry Into Walker Regime Slated as Aroused Public Opinion Views Three Year Record of Corruption

New York, March.—The demand for a sweeping inquiry into the city administration under Mayor Walker has attained such strength through the activities of the press and civic leaders in all walks of life that even Tammany leaders now doubt the possibility of preventing a further inquiry. Although still "sitting on the lid," Tammany finds itself in a precarious position with public opinion fully aroused after a series of charges, investigations and court proceedings involving public officials which have stirred New York for three years.

The traffic in judicial posts, the "framing" of innocent women and girls, the murders of witnesses against the police, and a host of unsolved crimes indicative of widespread and monstrous corruption are the high spots of the three-year period of misrule that has shocked the Nation.

Millions of dollars of public funds have been plundered by public officers. A few have been convicted and sent to prison but despite the pleas of press and public, Governor Roosevelt has refused to authorize an investigation with sufficient power to clean up a sink of corruption unparalleled even in the days of Tweed and Croker.

The District Attorney's office has long been under fire and the hearing of charges against C. T. Crain, the Tammany prosecutor, by Samuel Seabury probably will be completed within a few weeks. That this investigation is a prelude to a wider inquiry is regarded as certain despite the efforts being made by Tammany to prevent further inquiries.

The following are some of the outstanding cases which have reached the courts in the past three years:

Maurice E. Connolly, former President of the Borough of Bronx, was convicted in October, 1928, of misappropriation of public funds.

### "DAMN HOOVER!"

H. E. Houston in the *Hobbs (Min.)*  
Chief

When wheat production's over-done,  
And farms go bankrupt one by one,  
Then curses ring from sun to sun,  
"Damn Hoover!"

When hunger comes because of drought,  
And famine stalks throughout the south,  
Then curses ring from every mouth,  
"Damn Hoover!"

When someone makes a new machine,  
That takes the place of seventeen,  
Then people rave all they are given,  
"Damn Hoover!"

When better's cheap or better's high,  
For those who sell or those who buy,  
You then can hear the well known cry,  
"Damn Hoover!"

When chinchilles eat up all the grain,  
And crops are poor for lack of rain,  
Then farmers yell the old refrain,  
"Damn Hoover!"



# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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**JAMES L. WEST,**  
*Director of publicity*

"We firmly believe that President Hoover will solve all our problems in a fair and just manner. He is sound on all our great public questions, and deserves not only the support and cooperation of labor but of the whole American people."

—The Labor World.

—The Labor World.

vol. I

Washington, D. C.: 1st Issue for April, 1931

No. 40

# Political Wheels of Washington

BY JAMES L. WEST-

Washington, April—Dissatisfied with the action of the recent conference of the "Progressives" in Washington in failing to demand the calling of an immediate session of the Seventy-second Congress, a few socialist leaders and some of those who attended the pow-wow of the "Progressives" organized themselves into an "informal conference" recently for the purpose of carrying the demand for an extraordinary session to the country.

Their professed purpose is to have Congress appropriate funds for the relief of the unemployed in the great cities which they represent as being unable to solve the problem of aid for the distressed. And this despite the fact that authorities of most of the cities have made it clear that they desire no federal aid to assist them.

While no doubt the great majority of those making up the "informal conference" are sincere in their belief that there should be an extra session, it is fairly clear that some of those attending consciously or unconsciously were motivated by other than purely humanitarian considerations.

In this conference as in the one that preceded it, there were self-appointed or self-appointed representatives of the people whose principal activity is lobbying before committees of Congress or in the ante-chambers of the House and the Senate.

## "THE GOOD STORY"



*Berriman in The Washington Star*

200

term as Secretary of Agriculture in

**G. O. P. SQUARELY FACING FARM  
PROBLEM. IOWA SENATOR SAYS**

## Senator Dickinson Views Farm Situation, Listing Republican Activities In Aid of Agriculture; Calls Protective Tariff Vital Factor

(Editor's Note: Senator Dickinson, Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Republican National Committee, and one of the country's foremost farm leaders, presents herewith his views on the agricultural situation with a discussion of the various relief measures. This is the first of a series of articles by Republican leaders on economic issues in an exclusive service to weekly readers.)

BY SENATOR L. J. DICKINSON

It has been charged that after eight years of Republican rule we have a business depression and an era of unemployment, that the Republican Party during this period has done nothing by way of prevention or in preparation to prevent this period of distress. In reply let me suggest that the Republican Party has always been a party of accomplishments. It has never shirked responsibility. For the last half century it has gradually developed our economic system to where values in the United States have been tremendously increased per capita wealth advanced, a high standard of living accepted and a high wage of wage maintained.

Foremost in the economic program of the Republican Party is the protective tariff system. It has been repeatedly charged that the high tariff policy of the Republican Party is responsible for the decrease in our import and export trade. It should be remembered that maintenance of our domestic market for the home consumer is the strongest guarantee for economic prosperity. The prosperity of the farmer or any other class of people depends more on an active domestic market than it does upon our export or import trade. For this reason the policies of the Republican Party to direct us and lead us through the economic depression is the safest policy that could be devised. It should be noted that our export in hams and shoulders for the last six months of 1929 was 58 million pounds, while for 1930 for the same period, 52 million pounds. This does not show a marked decrease in the export trade in which the farmer is greatly interested. Lard shows a greater decrease for the reason that vegetable oils are being used as a substitute for lard. For this reason, had as business may be, it is my belief that it is much better than it would have been had it not been for the active and aggressive policy of the Republican Party in protecting the domestic market for the domestic producer and retaining the American job for the American laborer.

With reference to the farm relief legislation, it should be recalled that the Farm Board was organized and started operation just at the beginning of the present economic world depression. That the decline in wheat prices between July 15, 1929, and March 10, 1931, at Chicago was 60 cents, in Minneapolis 68 cents in Liverpool



X-JK 2352

#4

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of publicity.

"There will be no increases in taxes if the next Congress proposes any such thing. The Republican Administration will present, but for Congress to do this the people must consent. The Republican Administration will postpone consideration of the demands of sectional and group interests."

—Herbert Hoover.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 2nd Issue for April, 1931

No. 41

## Political Wheels of Washington

By JAMES L. WEST

Washington, April.—Rightly or wrongly, Senator Thaddeus Caraway is given credit by a goodly number of political observers with having nipped the tender bud of the Presidential boom of his Arkansas colleague, Senator Joseph T. Robinson.

The pincers were applied at the late riot which the Democratic National Committee staged in the usually peaceful Mayflower Hotel on the occasion of the proposal of John J. Raskob that the party which he personally has bought and paid for declare for a supplement to the Eighteenth Amendment which would let the wet states be wet if they elected to be that way.

It is related that during the argument in which cohorts of Mr. Raskob seemed to be temporarily in the ascendency, Mr. Caraway did a large amount of verbal prodding of his colleague, the minority leader of the Senate, to take the floor and let the wets from Tennessee know that they couldn't put that over on the Democracy of the South.

Senator Cordell Hull, of Tennessee, in his mild manner, had averred the same thing but his address apparently lacked the fire and brimstone which Mr. Caraway considered the occasion required, so he prodded and prodded his colleague, who, more aroused in a cause, can emit fire and brimstone all over whatever place he be in, be it Senate, business

## TARIFF BRINGS NEW INDUSTRY TO PENNA.

Huntingdon, Pa., Apr.—The Hawley-Smoot tariff has gained a new industry for this city. Plans are completed for the immediate construction and operation of the American factory of the Monza Mills, Inc., which will give employment to hundreds of local people and expend more than \$300,000 annually in salaries and wages.

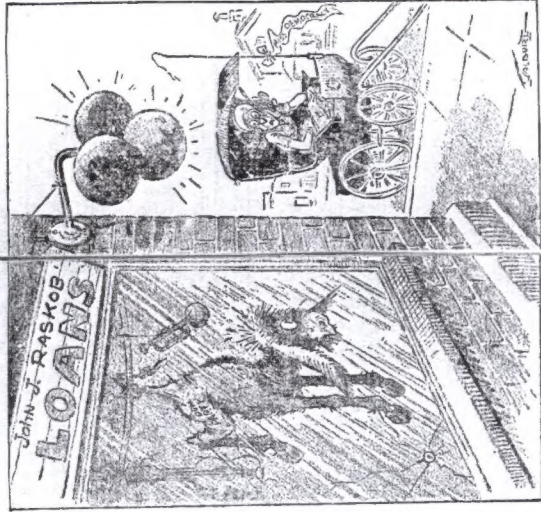
The high rates on raw wool imposed by the Hawley-Smoot tariff is directly responsible for Huntingdon's new industry. The factory was formerly located in Italy where cheap labor enabled the manufacturers to profitably export their product into the American market but with the inauguration of the new tariff it became impossible to compete with domestic factories.

The factory will manufacture wool felt hat bodies and its estimated output will be 300,000 dozens, representing annual sales of more than one million dollars. The local Chamber of Commerce and many private citizens were instrumental in bringing the project to Huntingdon after the necessity of an American base of operations had been decided upon. Messrs. Carl F. Brown, T. F. Miller, J. O. Bergantz, Joseph F. Biddle, George W. Fisher, F. Blair Isenberg, and James Morgan were particularly active in making the arrangements.

## CAPITAL GLIMPSES



## Two Souls With But a Single Thought



Talbot in the Washington Daily News

## The Tariff Issue AN EDITORIAL

It becomes increasingly evident that the Democratic "program" in the 1932 campaign will be practically the same as in the Congressional elections of 1930. The high lights of that "program" were the Raskob-Shouse tactics of "smearing" Hoover, exploiting the unemployed, and shrieking from the houseboats that the Republicans had perpetrated a tariff act that was incredibly awful.

As they had no real program then and as they have none now—with the exception of Chairman Raskob's limitation of Republican economic policies which does not set well with his colleagues—they will probably resort to 1930 methods, with emphasis on the "iniquitous" tariff.

Inasmuch as every tariff revision engineered by Democrats has resulted in disaster it is well to examine the present Democratic position on the question. Last summer Democratic campaigners told the farmers that the Hawley-Smoot act was robbing them of fair prices for their produce, while at the same time they contended rather illogically in the cities that the tariff was aiding the farmers at the expense of city consumers. Only a Jouett Shouse could straddle this remarkable paradox but even his unusual performance of ambidextrous mud-slinging was not sufficient to draw attention from the somewhat embarrassing record of the Democrats in the Senate who supported and voted for some of the highest rates in the bill they now denounce.

Among those prominent Democrats who voted for increased and against decreased rates in the Hawley-Smoot bill are Senators Tom Connally, Morris Sheppard, Clarence C. Dill, Ken Pittman, Robert

## PRESS GROUP LAUDS PRESIDENT'S RECORD

Summarizing the political events of the past two years, the Spencer (W. Va.) Times Record, one of the sixteen newspapers owned by Woodford Publications, editorially commended the re-

## POLITICS IN POWER ISSUE SAYS SPARGO

New York, Apr.—John Spargo, one of the Nation's foremost socialists, and the author of a number of volumes on social and economic questions, condemned Federal ownership of utilities

## PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM ATTAINS BILLION MARK

FURTHER evidence of the intensive nation-wide cooperation in President Hoover's plan to accelerate construction and give additional jobs is seen in the report of the Emergency Committee for Employment that nearly one billion dollars in public works contracts have been awarded in the first three months of this year.

Exclusive of the last week in March the total of all contracts reported to the committee since December 1, 1930, most of which were awarded since the first of the year, is more than \$927,000,000. It is extremely probable that the complete figures for March will show the building program to have attained or surpassed the billion mark.

Three hundred and seventy-one projects aggregating \$145,202,508 were recorded as under contract in one week—March 15 to 21—the largest weekly total as yet reported to the committee.

The projects include public and semi-public works, post offices and other federal buildings, state and municipal buildings, colleges, hospitals, churches, bridges, highways and streets, sewer construction and other work of the same type. These are reported to the Public Works Section of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment as they progress towards the actual construction stage.

## NEW HIGHWAY WORK GIVES ADDED JOBS



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JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of Publicity.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

X-JK2352

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**BANKRUPT DEMOCRACY**  
"Why should the people of the South, in justice to themselves, continue an alliance with a political organization that is bankrupt? The answer is simple: because it cannot present to the American people a concrete statement as to what it believes and as to what it will do in the event it is elected to power. The government of the South is a failure. It is a failure of the Republican National Committee."

VOL. I

Washington, D. C., 3rd Issue for April, 1931

No. 42

## Political Wheels of Washington

By JAMES L. WEST

Two recent political announcements contain good red meat for the interpreters of politics to chew on. J. M. Shouse, chairman of the Democratic National Executive Committee, has informed the press that he is inaugurating the 1932 Presidential campaign in his radio speeches across the country. And Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt has let it be known that he wants the Democratic nomination for President by approving the efforts of certain individuals in organizing Roosevelt clubs.

The surface relationship between these two announcements is paradoxical. Mr. Shouse did not say he was campaigning for Roosevelt and as an officer of the National Committee he cannot support any candidate until one is nominated by his party in convention. Mr. Shouse' personal feelings toward Governor Roosevelt as a presidential candidate are unknown but as Mr. Raskob's subordinate, Mr. Shouse might find himself in a most embarrassing position were it possible and necessary for him to endorse or repudiate the Roosevelt candidacy.

Most observers believe that Roosevelt is "out in front" so far as the nomination is concerned at present but they invariably stress the "at present." Cautious calculators compare the Roosevelt ascendancy with the runners in a two-mile race who lead the field at the first quarter—they seldom last to breast the

## CAPITAL GLIMPSES



**ERNEST LEE JAHNCKE**  
*The Assistant Secretary of the Navy*

Engineer, yachtsman, aviation enthusiast, shipbuilder, banker, philanthropist and civic leader, Ernest Lee Jahncke, of New Orleans, President Hoover's "sea going" assistant secretary of the Navy, has achieved outstanding success in each of the many fields to which he has turned his dynamic attention.

Arch-foe of governmental "red tape," Secretary Jahncke is perhaps the best example in the President's Little Cabinet of the high type of Southern "go-getter." Hard hitting, direct, forceful, his sharp-

## Strange Bedfellows, Indeed!



S. Ray in the Kansas City Star

## LUCAS FLAYS BANKRUPT LEADERSHIP OF DEMOCRATS IN DIXIE BROADCAST

G. O. P. Executive Director Appeals to People of South to Desert "Political Graveyard" of Organization Without Program and Disrupted by Discord

An appeal to the people of the South to end their position of "perpetual political

## DESERT RECLAMATION AND "LESS ACREAGE" DRIVE ALIKE IN AIM

Only Non-surplus Crops Produced on Federal Projects  
Drawing Farmers From Sub-marginal Lands In  
Corn and Wheat Belt, Says Gov. Dixon

**Editor's Note:** This article was written by Governor Dixon, who as The First Assistant Secretary of the Interior, is the ultimate authority on federal reclamation projects, this work being under his direct supervision. He is now Governor of Montana, having begun his career there as a newspaper publisher.)

By JOSEPH M. DIXON,  
*The First Assistant Secretary of the Interior*

The government is spending \$165,000,000 on a dam in the Colorado River. The purpose of the dam is to make possible the irrigation of several thousands of acres of land that production may be increased. At the same time another department of the government is spending millions to stabilize farm products \* \* \* and Alexander Legge has been going around the country preaching to farmers to cut down acreage and produce less. Will someone who can rise and explain the consistency of this?

The above quotation is from an Iowa newspaper and is typical of hundreds. It is a question millions of thinking farmers are asking. Without full knowledge of the facts such a policy as is indicated above would appear to be absurd. But the question itself becomes absurd if the facts are brought out. It is like the trick question of the country lawyer: "Have you stopped beating your wife? Answer, yes or no!"

## Whither Democracy?

AN EDITORIAL

Mr. Raskob's request to the members of the Democratic National Committee for an expression of opinion on his recommendations has been received by the press generally as a "prohibition poll." While Mr. Raskob's views on prohibition certainly constitute an integral part of his message there were many other items in the Raskob platform worthy of scrutiny not only by the committee-men and women but also by the general public because of the nation's position

Here is the answer: The acreage made available through reclamation is devoted exclusively, or practically so, to the production of crops which are not among the great surplus crops. The largest single crop produced on federally reclaimed lands is sugar beet. Fruits of all kinds, berries, alfalfa, long staple cotton, vegetables, these are the reclaimed lands.

Instead of adding to the surplus of the small grains, cotton and tobacco, these crops indirectly reduce that sur-



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JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of Publicity.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

X-JK 2352

#6

"American wheat sold for \$172,200,000 for the 1929 and 1930 wheat crops... out the enactment of the tariff and the Farm Board law. These figures... happened to this action of the... cultural industry but for the tariff... Simmons of Nebraska, Ranking Republican Member of House Agricultural Appropriations Committee.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 4th Issue for April, 1931

No. 43

## Political Wheels of Washington

By JAMES L. WEST

Washington, April —

THE DEMOCRATIC HYMNS of hate in the 1932 presidential campaign have been sung by the Big Three of the Democratic National Committee, but there has been no suggestion even of a constructive program which would correct the situation about which there is so much complaint from the opposition campaign.

CHAIRMAN JOHN I. RASKOB apparently thinks that a drink of liquor and bigger and better business combinations furnish the cure for conditions about which he complains, but such eminent leaders as William G. McAdoo, Joseph Daniels, and former Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, disagree with him on the one score or the other.

IN FACT, MR. RASKOB'S platform for 1932 has stirred up such a commotion in the Democratic Party as the country has not witnessed since the followers of Jefferson and Jackson joined the battle to the death at Madison Square Garden in 1924.

THE MILD-MANNERED Mr. Raskob has succeeded in making himself the peppercorn of the American political world. He has appeared unperturbed under the assaults of the men leaders in his party, but his reaction

## FARM BUREAU POLICY FIAT SLAP AT SHOUSE

Formal Pronouncement Supporting  
Federal Board Seen As Rebuke  
To Democrat Triumvirate

That the American Farm Bureau Federation—largest, most powerful and most articulate voice of the American farming industry—is solidly backing the farm relief policies of President Hoover and the Federal Farm Board has been made unmistakably clear in a formal statement in the official publication of that organization.

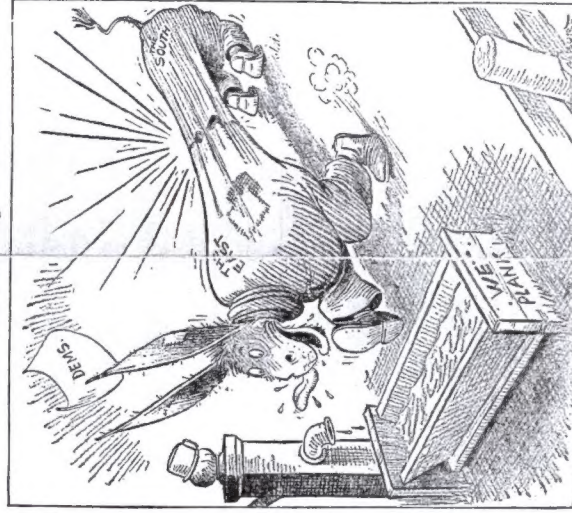
The statement was made by M. S. Winder, executive secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and constitutes a definite enunciation of policy. Not only did Mr. Winder express full confidence and support of the Farm Board, but he also asserted that the American Farm Bureau advocates neither the equalization fee or the debenture plans of handling the exportable surplus of certain crops.

This statement of farm bureau policy is considered by Washington political observers as a direct rebuke of the Shouse-Raskob-Michaelson faction of the Democratic Party which has sought to make political capital with attacks on the Farm Board.

The statement, in part, follows: "Any statement that the American Farm Bureau Federation is backing either the equalization fee or the export debenture plan is absolutely false. This organization has never advocated the debenture and since the special session of Congress convened in April, 1929, the organization has made no effort to secure legislation embodying the equalization fee.

Policies Set.  
—With reference to amendments to the

## The Annual Tug o' War!



Talbot in the Washington Daily News.

## Vindication of a President

AN EDITORIAL

## EMPLOYMENT GAINS IN STEEL INDUSTRY

Charles M. Fitts, president of the American Institute of Steel Construction, noting a marked improvement in

## FARM BOARD HELD PRICES ABOVE WORLD LEVELS, CAPPER DECLARES

Kansas Senator Says Board Prevented Business Paralysis;  
Urges Further Trial and Foresees Great  
National Good

(Editor's Note: The following article was written by Senator Arthur Capper, sponsor of numerous constructive farm measures, and member of the Agricultural Advisory Council of the Republican National Committee.)

By SENATOR ARTHUR CAPPER OF KANSAS

In justice to the American farmer the federal Farm Board should be given a fair chance to show what it can do under the provisions of the agricultural marketing act. The American farmer is entitled to that chance. The Farm Board itself is entitled to that much. And so is the agricultural marketing act, the best compromise that Congress was able to work out in eight years of effort to lay the foundation for the relief of a distressed agriculture.

In my judgment the cooperative marketing act is as vitally necessary to the future prosperity of agriculture as tariff protection for farm products; the policy being gradually worked out by the farm board should assist materially in making the tariff effective on more of our farm products.

It is as vitally necessary to agriculture as the tariff is to industry in general; as the reserve banking act is to banking and finance; as the transportation act is to the railroads; as the restrictive immigration act is to labor in the United States.

These other laws, expressing and vitalizing important national policies, have been given time and opportunity to prove their usefulness. The original acts all have been amended to correct defects and weaknesses; to adjust their provisions to meet conditions and emergencies as they arrive.

Agriculture is as much entitled to government aid as industry, finance, labor; the farmer is entitled to the support afforded by a national policy that will allow the law of supply and demand to start functioning on his products before they leave his possession.

During the less than two years' existence of the farm board the entire world has been going through a severe depression. Commodity prices have been shot to pieces. There has been serious and general unemployment, accompanied by lack of buying power. All lines of industry have suffered greatly. Many have

## CAPITAL GLIMPSES





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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of Publicity.

"WISEST RELIEF"  
"No extra Congress, no extra taxes and no extra politics make the wisest proposals for relief that have yet been announced."  
—CARVIN COLLINGS.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 5th Issue for April, 1931

No. 44

## Shouse Trapped In Lie By Radio

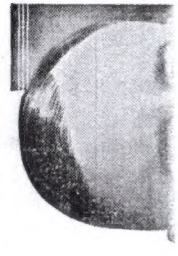
DEMOCRATIC CHIEF EXPOSED IN  
PLOT TO ENCOURAGE PREJUDICE

Shouse at Secret Meeting Claims G. O. P. Spread Anti-Catholic Literature but Whispering Campaign Fails as Radio Trips Democratic Chairman

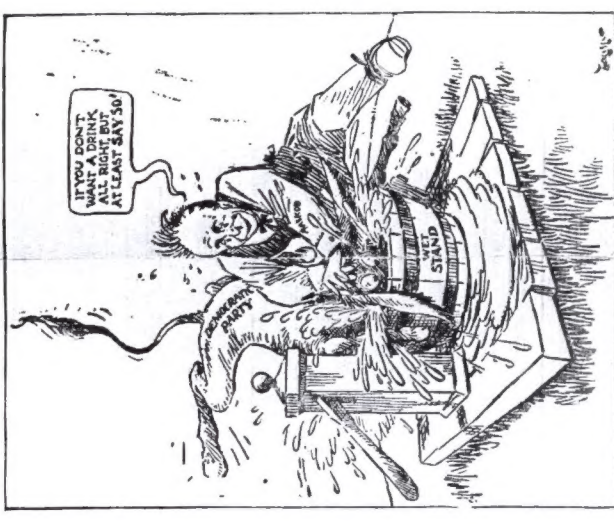
An unprecedented attempt to inject religion into national politics by means of a brazen lie has been exposed through the agency of the radio. J. J. Shouse, Democratic chairman and leader of the "Sneak Hoover" movement, committed the great tactical error of his life when he made a "confidential" address to a closed meeting of Democrats in San Francisco at which he falsely charged that the Republican National Committee had purchased and distributed 10,000,000 copies of a magazine article dealing with the religious affiliations of Mr. John J. Raskob, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Because a radio microphone which Mr. Shouse thought had been "turned off" was, on the contrary, working perfectly, this utterly false, malicious and despicable attack was exposed.

Because the broadcasting was not shut off at the conclusion of his set speech to the Democratic club of San Francisco, Mr. Shouse underhand attempt to inject religion as an issue into the next Presidential campaign was overheard by thousands of radio listeners. Hearers promptly communicated with San Francisco newspapers and the despicable conspiracy was exposed by the San Francisco Chronicle. As quoted in the Chronicle, Mr. Shouse said, "Now that I am no longer on the air let us look into this talk of smearing the President." The Democratic Executive Chairman then turned to an article on John J. Raskob, printed in an eastern magazine and written by Robert Cruise McManus, a newspaperman, in which Mr. Raskob was

### CAPITAL GLIMPSES



There's No Harm in Using a Little Persuasion



HOOVER RECORD VIEWED AS  
FORECAST OF RE-ELECTION

Buffalo Editor Reviews Long List of Major Achievements; Program Fulfilled Despite World Depression and Drought

Buffalo, Apr.—Setting forth the long list of achievements that have marked the first two years of the Hoover administration—carried out despite such colossal obstacles as the world-wide depression and the drought—A. H. Kirchofer, managing editor of the Buffalo Evening News, in a copyright article by the News and North American Newspaper Alliance analyzes the record of the President which he sees as the platform on which Mr. Hoover will make a confident campaign for re-election in 1932.

The President's friends, Mr. Kirchofer declares, "feel that Mr. Hoover has a record of constructive achievement, in spite of the business depression that will bring him re-election."

"These friends of the President say the foreign relations of the United States have never been so satisfactory as they are at the present moment; that the nation's relations with Latin-America have been revolutionized from antagonism into entire friendliness and that the conduct of the country's relations with Europe has increased the esteem with which the country is held to the highest point since the Treaty of Versailles. The completion of the naval treaty was carried out in the face of the failures of previous administrations and constitutes the greatest accomplishment for peace since the Great War."

### Government on High Plane

"In addition to these achievements here are some of the other conspicuous arguments which the President's friends offer in favor of his administration:

"The personnel and the administrative capacity of the federal government is never have been higher than at the present time. The work of the government is promptly and effectively discharged. Its probity has never been upon a higher plane. Federal laws are being more effectively enforced than at any time since before the World War."

Mr. Kirchofer further points out that some 35 promises made in the Republican platform of 1928 have been fulfilled by legislative and executive action.



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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JAMES L. WEST,  
Director of Publicity.

THE TARIFF  
"Until the time comes when China, Japan and the other nations of the Orient try to step up in line with America, we must have an adequate protective tariff. It is not only a question of our minor, economically weak, industries exchanging our home high priced materials for the cheap markets of the world."—The Lewisburg (Pa.) Saturday News.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 1st Issue for May, 1931

No. 45

## Political Wheels of Washington

—By JAMES L. WEST

WASHINGTON, May — Political trends last week viewed by expert observers from widely different angles were reported as follows: Arthur Brisbane, internationally-known columnist whose syndicated articles are read by millions of Americans, observed that President Hoover would be re-elected by a larger majority than that which he received in 1928.

THE NEW YORK Herald-Tribune in an editorial spoke of the reelection of Mr. Hoover as something already definitely assured and added that all the experts now expect him to be.

A POLL OF DELEGATES to the Republican National Convention of 1928, taken by the Washington Post, revealed that 402 of the men and women who had attended the convention now are of the opinion that Mr. Hoover will be renominated while only 29 indicated uncertainty or other choices.

THE BRISBANE prediction was made to Will Rogers, cowboy-journalist who made it public. The Herald-Tribune, which carries neither the Rogers nor the Brisbane feature, made its editorial proper the same day while the results of the Washington Post poll were announced the preceding day.

THESE VERY SIMILAR but unassociated observations all appearing

## WORDS, WORDS, WORDS

Says Jonett Shouse: "In my opinion, the economic problems involving unemployment, embracing reformation of the glaring inequities of the tariff, the water power complications and other phases constitute the outstanding issues of the coming campaign."

Words, words, words! If Mr. Shouse would say something that means something, he would tell the country just what the Democrats would do that they failed to do in the last Congress in an effort to solve the economic problems he mentions. What more, for instance, would they do to abolish unemployment than they did in cooperation with the Republicans in that Congress?

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

## CAPITAL GLIMPSES



"What's This Ah Hear About You-All Being Wet, Ma'am?"



## SHOUSE CONFESSES INJECTING RELIGION IN COAST ADDRESS

Fess Confronts the Democratic Chairman With the Official Transcript; Plays Contemptible Tactics as Shouse Says Speech Was Not Confidential

KENT NOT McMANUS CITED BY DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Republican Pamphlet Exposed "Smear Hoover" Plan But Did Not Mention Raskob's Religion Nor Incite Prejudice

Washington, May—Two things stand out clearly and undeniably as the result of further investigation of the speech made by Jonett Shouse at San Francisco.

The Democratic National Executive Chairman did unquestionably inject the religious issue into national politics in his address.

It has been proven also—and admitted by Mr. Shouse—that at the same meeting he charged the Republican National Committee with attacking John J. Raskob because of his religion.

In a public communication to Mr. Shouse, Senator Simon D. Fess, chairman of the Republican National Committee, in reply to a telegram from the former, exposed the vicious falsity of the Democratic chairman's charge and exoriated him for his "contemptible methods and utterly false statements."

### Shouse Defense

Basing his entire defense on the fact that he was speaking of Frank Kent and not Robert Cruise McManus, Mr. Shouse—confessing his attack on the Republican National Committee and his injection of the religious issue—demanded an apology from Senator Fess and the withdrawal of the Committee's news letter number 44. Mr. Shouse also implied that if his demands were not acceded to he would make his telegram public.

The Senator, in reply, promptly gave the Shouse telegram to the newspapers of the country and completed the exposure of the Democratic Chairman by quoting from the stenographic transcript of the Shouse speech in San Francisco which was compiled by Foster, Mings & Lelands, official shorthand reporters of the California city.

### Fess Quotes Transcript

Mr. Shouse had previously denied that he was speaking confidentially when he made religion an issue but the stenographic transcript quoted the Democratic leader as follows: "I have already talked too long and I have quit talking over the radio



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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**JAMES L. WEST,**  
Director of Publicity.

The dumping campaign of Soviet Russia presents a real menace to the American economy. It is a little less than economic warfare that should be met decisively, if need be, by the American people and their country.

—World's Work.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 2nd Issue for May, 1931

No. 46

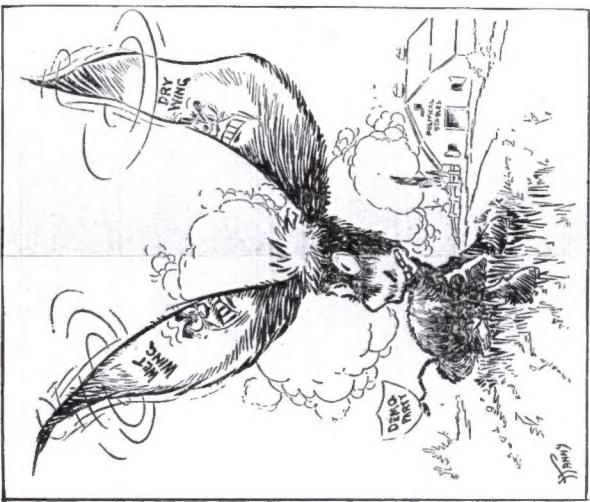
## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(To the Editor: It is hoped you may find this letter to be as useful as the one I sent you last week, under any heading you desire, or to state further to be chopped up into short editorials.)

President Hoover received a heart warming welcome when he appeared on Monday morning to extend greetings to the people of the United States to the 1000 delegates from 46 nations gathered to attend the 6th general congress of the International Chamber of Commerce, which began its meetings in Washington on Sunday. This continued from through the week. This congress without doubt was the most important assembly of men gathered together anywhere in the world last week, and the address made by the President was one which has been read with the greatest interest in every capital of the world. In this address the President sounded a warning note that the world is far too heavily armed to insure a continuance of peace or to make certain an early return to prosperity. Even though twelve years have passed since the Armistice and the world's every nation is a signatory to the Kellogg-Brand Pact denouncing war, Mr. Hoover pointed out the fact that the world is now spending nearly five billion dollars yearly on arms and navies, an increase of 70% over that previous to the great war, and that 5 1/2 million men are actively under arms with 20 millions more in reserve. "This vast armament," the President declared with solemn emphasis, "continues not only a burden upon the economic recuperation of the world but, of more consequence, the constant threats and fears which arise from it are a serious contribution to all forms of instability, whether social, political or economic."

## At It Again



Henny in the Philadelphia Inquirer

## The Cabinet On the Air

In calling attention to the fact that the world is spending 70% more on arms than it did before the war in spite of the Kellogg Pact and a number of armament treaties, President Hoover has done a real service to those who honestly want to keep their thinking on straight. That the enormous burden of taxation upon the people of Europe imposed by these huge expenditures is a

A unique and remarkable program is announced by the Washington Radio Forum—The Washington Evening Star—nothing less indeed than a series of addresses, to be presented over the Columbia Broadcasting System by members of the President's Cabinet. The

## CAPITAL GLIMPSES



DR. JULIUS KLEIN  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce

**(NOTE TO EDITORS)—This is the portrait of a man whose official life in Washington is so busy that he has no time to speak in your vicinity day. (1932.)**

Whatever else Dr. Julius Klein may add to the list of his brilliant career, he already is assured a permanent place in the commercial history of the United States, his eight year job of developing the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic

## The President and the Boy

One of the hardest things for those who know President Hoover to understand is how it happens that those who do not know him can complain that he is not "human," meaning thereby that he dwells habitually in a sort of upper realm of self-containment and isolation, that he is not touched by the things which stir ordinary men nor his heart warmed by sympathy and understanding of his fellows. His whole public career should discredit such an estimate of him. Why did he give up his private business with its promise of an immense fortune and for years give his whole time at his own expense to relief work in Belgium and Poland and Russia and all over Europe, during the war and after the war? It was because human need made an entirely irresistible appeal to him. Especially the need of little children. He said in the early days of the war to another American who was going into that country to assist in the distribution of food and clothing, "You will see things in Belgium that will make you feel as if you never wanted to smile again." He was thinking of the long lines of women and little children shivering their way up to the place where doles of food were being distributed to them. It was always the thought of the suffering children that drove him on and on in his work of relief during and after the war.

And so to those who know him the President's impulsive act in inviting Bryan Untied to be his guest at the White House for three or four days, was perfectly natural. Here was a boy who, under the stress of sudden emergency, without special preparation or previous warning, had done instinctively the fine, brave, heroic thing. Left with a crowd of whimpering children in a stranded omnibus, exposed to the fury of a Colorado blizzard, he stripped himself of overcoat and coat to keep the younger children warm and hour after



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

An encouraging indication of the trend of the times is found in a report by the National Association of Manufacturers, which states that certain employee permanent have been secured in the recent recession has not only reached the bottom since but is now giving definite indications of continued and notable trend. The report was based on a survey of 748 companies, employing about 500,000 persons in 23 basic industries.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 3rd Issue for May, 1931

No. 47

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

President Hoover is giving himself no vacation this summer, except his week-ends at the Napaquin camp, and even these week-ends are to be given over in the main to consideration of the public business in conferences with members of his Cabinet, bureau chiefs and members of Congress. He began this series of conferences last week with a study of the expenditures of the War Department, calling into consultation the Secretary of War and Congressman Wood, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations. Successive conferences will take up the expenditures of other Departments in an endeavor to reduce expenses wherever possible. The President is making heroic efforts to stop the needless outflow of funds and has ordered the most drastic economies to be practiced in order, if possible, to make it unnecessary to increase taxation.

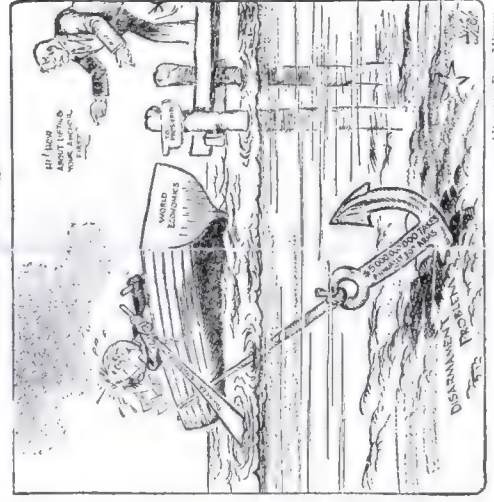
## Mr. Hoover's Score Not Bad

In World's Work for May, under the title "Mr. Hoover's First Two Years," there is a graphic record of the President's principal commitments showing results he has achieved and the reasons for his success or failure, that is most illuminating. It will be surprising also to those who have allowed themselves to be misled into the belief that the President's first two years in the White House were practically barren of results. This World Work record, taken from official sources and presented without argument, shows on the contrary a most remarkable score of constructive achievements.

In the field of foreign affairs, for example, the President put forward seven concrete proposals and five of them received favorable action. The only two that failed were the proposal for the adoption of the World Court Protocol, consideration of which could not be reached by Congress due to the pressure of other matters, and the recommendation for the construction of naval vessels, now authorized and permitted by the London Treaty, which was abandoned in the Senate through fear of a filibuster. Practically every important and pressing recommendation having relation to foreign affairs was carried into effect.

In the matter of governmental reforms, the President made five recommendations, four of which were completely accomplished. He asked for the reapportionment of Congressional representation, for authority to appoint a full-time Federal Power Commission, for the reorganization of the Radio Commission into a permanent body, and for the consolidation of the Pension Bureau, the National Home and the Veterans' Bureau. All these were reforms and they were most important character and they were brought about by the effective leadership of the Administration. The only recommendation that failed of action

## ANCHORS A-WEIGHT!



Altoona, Pa., Mirror.

## "Down With American Tariff and Wage Scale"

The most insistent note struck in all the speeches made before the International Congress which was in session in Washington last week by the foreign industrialists and international bankers who addressed that congress was the assault upon the American tariff and the American wage scale. These distinguished gentlemen stated that world prosperity never could be restored and that the debts which Europe owes to America never could be paid unless and until tariff was reduced to rates that would make it possible for Europe to even make to be sold in American markets.

## Straws in the Breeze

Cheyenne Tribune: "There will be no increase in taxes if the next Congress imposes no increases upon the budget or other expenditure proposals which the administration will present.—Herbert Hoover."

Madison (Va.) Eagle: "President Hoover says no governmental agency should engage in buying and selling and price fixing of products, for such a course can only lead to bureaucracy and domination."

Scranton (Pa.) Republican: "It is a grave mistake for people to view Herbert Hoover as a cold and calculating machine, when he is really a modest, unassuming and thoroughly human person."

Centerville (Pa.) Record: "President Hoover must be an intensely human kind of man. His heart must beat just about the same as those in humbler walks of life. No other reasoning is possible in the light of his invitation to a 15-year-old hero of that western bus tragedy to pay a visit to the White House."

Portland (Me.) Press Herald: "President Hoover is reported as being against an increase in the Federal taxes. That is good news for most people but unless Congress can be compelled to amend its ways we cannot see how the income tax payers are going to escape paying the bills."

Springfield (Mass.) Republic: "Musolini has gone over to the side of President Hoover on the wage question. The protest for cutting salaries and wages in Italy is to be dropped for fear this would impair the purchasing power of the nation. It wages and prices could be made to keep exact pace with the fluctuating value of gold the cost for reduction when gold is scarce

## To Keep Wages Up

New York Herald-Tribune: The determination of the federal administration to resist any general reduction of wage schedules has been amply attested in recent remarks on the subject by President Hoover and Secretary Doolittle of the Labor Department. Still it is refreshing to have Secretary Mellon reaffirm his attitude, as he has in his speech to the bankers who are delegates to the convention of the International Chamber of Commerce. As usual, Secretary Mellon puts the case in a nutshell when he says that "the all-important factor is purchasing power" and that "the present is no time to undertake drastic and doubtful experiments which may conceivably result in breaking down the standard of living to which we have become accustomed."

## Another Hoover Service

Amid all the storms of defamation and detraction that have raged around the devoted head of President Hoover there is one element of the population, and a very important one, that has stood by him thus far without wavering. And that is organized labor. The leaders of the Federation of Labor have repeatedly expressed their confidence in Mr. Hoover in a general way and their gratitude to him for specific things he has done.

The latest occasion for their acknowledgment grows out of the policy of the President with respect to alien immigration. Congress failed to pass a bill which was pending for the protection of American workmen by further restricting the immigration of aliens during this period of depression. But the President discovered in the existing law a provision under which this result could be accomplished. This provision de-



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

Notice to Editors: This service is supplied weekly by the Republican National Committee, 1000 Building, Washington, D. C., and is to be used with or without credit. It is a matter of regret that for the present it is impossible to continue the cartoon mat service. Later we hope to resume it.

CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 4th Issue for May, 1931

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No. 48

## The Tariff on Oil

### News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

So much has been said about the demerit of the East in the House of Representatives that a good many people doubtless will be surprised when they read a statement recently given out by Hon. James S. Parker, a Representative from New York, in connection with his appeal for the election of his colleague, Bertrand H. Snell, as Speaker of the next House. Answering the objection, he knows will be made, that the election of a New York man to the Speakership would throw the House out of balance, Mr. Parker points out the fact that Will R. Wood, of Indiana, would be Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, one of the three most important Committees in the House; that Fred S. Purmill, of Indiana, will become Chairman of the Rules Committee; another of the three most powerful, if Mr. Snell is made Speaker; that the chairmanship of the big three Committees, of Iowa, Ways and Means is held by W. C. Hawley; of Oregon; that Haugen, of Iowa, is Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture. Speaking of other branches of the Government, Mr. Parker points out the fact that the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee is Jones of Washington; that the Senate Agricultural Committee is headed by an Oregon man, McNary; that Peter Norbeck, of South Dakota, heads the Senate Committee of Banking and Currency; Hiram Johnson, of California, the Commerce Committee; Snoot of Utah, the Finance Committee; Borah, of Idaho, the Foreign Relations Committee; Couzens, of Michigan, the Interstate Commerce Committee; Norris, of Nebraska, the Judiciary Committee—indeed that not a single Senate Committee is headed by a New Yorker.

And then he winds up by reminding us that President Hoover is from Indiana.

Critics of the new tariff law declare that it was a general revision and not the "limited revision" promised by the President.

Here are the facts as reported by the Tariff Commission: In the value of the total imports the duties were increased upon approximately 22.5% while 77.5% were untouched or decreased.

By number of the dutiable items mentioned in the bill out of the total of about 3,300 there were about 880 increases and 2,170 untouched. The number of dutiable items in which increases were made, therefore, was 27% of all dutiable items, while 73% were untouched or decreased. Could it be expected that any revision at all would be more "limited" than these figures show this to have been?

It is charged that the Republican promise to revise the tariff specially in the interest of agriculture was not kept.

Here are the facts: Of all the increases made in the bill as reported by the Tariff Commission, 93.73% are upon products of agricultural origin, measured in value as distinguished from 6.25% upon commodities of strictly non-agricultural origin.

The average increase upon agricultural raw materials shows an increase in this bill 38.02% as compared in the old law to 48.92%, whereas the increase on dutiable articles of strictly other than agricultural origin was from 31.09% to 24.31%.

These figures not only answer the criticism that the interests of agriculture were not specially kept in mind in making this revision, but they refute the further criticism that other industries were given a greater increase than agriculture.

## That Terrible Hoover!

Referring to the recent meetings of the United States and the International Chambers of Commerce, Senator Hull, of Tennessee, is quoted as saying:

"Presumably the two great business meetings at Washington and Atlantic City were possessed of the constant apprehension that they might incur the displeasure of the Hoover administration if they should undertake a serious discussion of the real problems and conditions confronting the country and express conclusions embodying practical remedies."

That is really too funny! The idea that mild-mannered, soft-spoken Mr. Hoover so menaces and over-awes the Barons of Business of two worlds that they are afraid to speak their minds on a topic they assembled specially to discuss! If Senator Hull were to be taken seriously it is hard to say whether his words would be more insulting to the delegates to these chambers of commerce or to the President. But of course they are not to be taken seriously for the Senator is a gentleman and would not insult anybody. He merely took this way of expressing his disappointment that the speeches at Atlantic City and Washington were not filled with criticism of the President, holding him responsible for the world-wide depression and demanding a reversal of his policies as a remedy.

## Registration of Aliens

In the course of his notable address before the annual convention in Washington of the D. A. R., Vice President Curtis said:

"I wish to say a few words about a question in which every American citizen, native-born and naturalized, is deeply interested. That is the handling of certain aliens within our borders. Once in our country they are first to travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Gulf to the

## The Matter of Credit

The time has come when, in the opinion of many economists, the economic recovery of the country is largely in the hands of those who control credit. Every depression in our history has been characterized by the sudden curtailment of credit with the result of further aggravating industrial inactivity, discouraging new enterprise and increasing unemployment. It is a condition directly opposite to that which prevails in boom times when easy credit results in inflation and wild speculation. Fortunately the depression through which we have been passing has not been made as acute as in many similar crises in the past for the reason that forced collections, hasty calls of loans and unwise denials of credit have not been so prevalent as in times past. Due to the universal confidence in the fundamental stability of our financial system. Nevertheless, credit has been withheld and is being withheld by over-cautious bank executives and the progress of business recovery is therefore being delayed.

In all the great cities, in the savings banks, in the trust companies and in commercial banks vast quantities of money have been accumulated, but it is lying idle. Virtually the only loans that are being made are the loans which the money is to be invested in bonds or other securities that can be placed in strong markets and can be sold at a short notice. Meanwhile, industry or industry or men who would like to be engaged in industry, are undertaking almost of them sound. It is just the reverse of the condition in the hands of those who control loanable funds. The scores of credit men of the first financial organizations of the first minds that in America which have 120,000,000 people are safe bets, the sooner we will be on the road back to normalcy.

## The Russian Menace

Probably the greatest menace to



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 1st Issue for June, 1931

No. 49

## Presidential Commissions

During the Administration of President Hoover, up to date, 44 commissions have been created and complaint is made that the President, through these extra governmental agencies, has added to our rapidly growing and burdensome bureaucracy. Inquiry develops the fact that 23 of these commissions were created by act of Congress and 21 upon the initiative of the President. In this connection, it is interesting to note that of the commissions created by the President the expenses of only 4 have been paid by the Federal Government, while 17 have either cost nothing or have been supported by private funds, all the members serving without compensation, glad to make this contribution to the success of plans and movements in which they believe and in which there could be no success without Presidential interest and approval.

In this connection, it is not without interest to observe that the practice of appointing commissions, conferences and special committees to deal with matters of national interest and import did not originate with President Hoover. Doubtless, every President has found such agencies useful and has employed them as occasion arose. Printed records, however, go back no further than the beginning of the Roosevelt Administration in 1901. They disclose that during the seven years of President Roosevelt's incumbency he appointed 107 different commissions, committees and boards. President Taft created 63 such agencies; President Wilson, 150; President Harding, 44, and President Coolidge, 118.

In all of these administrations, the discovery was made which came to President Hoover very early in his administration, namely, that "The President himself cannot pretend to know or have the time for detailed investigation of every one of the hundreds of subjects affecting a great people." The Pres-

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

One of the most notable gatherings in Washington this year was the assembly brought together to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American Red Cross on the evening of May 21. The toastmaster was Chief Justice Hughes, the principal speaker of the evening was President Hoover, and among the 800 guests were eight ambassadors and 50 other diplomatic representatives. The address of the President was broadcast over a network of 35 stations and was a glowing and eloquent tribute to the great organization which he characterized as "a chief glory and pride of the American democracy."

Attorney General Mitchell corrected a wide-spread misapprehension when he declared the other day that "on an average not over 20 per cent of the revenue of organized gangsters as shown by recent prosecutions for income tax violations is derived from illicit traffic in liquor." The impression has been general that gangsterism and racketeering had their origin in national prohibition and are practically confined to one phase or another of the illicit traffic in liquor. Attorney General Mitchell reports that "in one community we know of 48 different kinds of rackets." It is a relief to have official assurance that prohibition is not responsible for all the crimes in the world.

In Scribner's Magazine for June, Frank R. Kent, one of the keenest political analysts in the country, has an article under the title "The 1932 Presidential Sweepstakes" that Republicans and Democrats alike will find interesting. Conceding at once the renoma-

When the law fails of execution, when the conduct of the Government is hampered by dishonesty and corruption, when the president, the value of property is raised, innocence of the crime is witnessed, innocence becomes more dense, and the poverty of the people is increased. We are a nation of the law, and the law is the only way to be complacent about violations of the law or laxity in their Government. Our whole credit structure is based on the general power to enforce the law.

—CALVIN COOLIDGE.

## Flexible Provision at Work

The apprehension expressed by certain Democratic statesmen that the flexible provision of the tariff law will keep tariff always in politics, and therefore make it a continually disturbing factor in business, does not seem to be shared by the men whose activities bring them in closest touch with our tariff laws. Very recently H. L. Derby, of New York City, Chairman of the Tariff Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, issued a statement in which he not only protested vigorously against any proposal to enter upon a general revision of the tariff, but specifically endorsed the flexible provisions of the present law. He reviewed the work of the Tariff Commission, showing that since the law was passed it has launched investigations in 60 cases; has dismissed 16 applications; 7 requests for relief have been voluntarily withdrawn by the original applicants; and 13 final reports have been placed before the President with the result that 2 increases and 6 decreases in established rates have been approved. The President, he says, has additionally accepted the recommendations of the Tariff Commission in 3 cases that no change be made and in two cases, for reasons assigned, he withheld his final approval of the Commission's recommendations. Nine investigations were dismissed after they had been undertaken. The Commission has held 29 hearings with 5 additional ones scheduled for early dates. Summarizing this record, Mr. Derby makes the following most significant statement: "The conclusion is unescapable that the flexible provisions of the tariff law are not only workable, but that they are working."

No more competent witness upon this subject could be found than Mr. Derby, and the Administration may well rest its case on his testimony.

## Something for Everybody to Bear In Mind

American citizens who wish to deal fairly by the President of the United States—and the great majority of American citizens do wish to deal fairly by him—should remember that the criticism of him they read in the papers or hear from platforms is inspired by POLITICS, pure and simple. If Herbert Hoover were a private citizen nobody would be saying a word against him. But he is in politics. He is in office. He doubtless will be re-nominated. He is a Republican. And so those who want to make capital against the Republican party attack him. They do not question his integrity, his flawless personal character, his patriotism or his great ability. But they try in every way they can to break down his popularity and destroy the confidence the people have in him. And to do this they attack him along lines they think will appeal to large blocks of voters. A great many men are out of employment and they are told it is because of the "Hoover panic." Prices of farm products are low and farmers are told it is because of the policies of the Farm Board which Hoover directed. Taxes are high and those who pay are told it is because of Hoover's big appropriations. Many families suffered from the drought and they are told their sufferings would have been more adequately relieved but for Hoover's interference with the desires of Congress. The speakers and writers who make these assaults are no more concerned than Mr. Hoover is about the plight of the unemployed or of the farmers or of the drought sufferers—doubtless not nearly as much so. They are simply trying to break down Mr. Hoover because they don't want him elected next year, because they don't want the Republican party to remain in power.

It is politics, sheer politics, and it ought not to fool anybody.

## This Tariff Bill and Others

In view of the attacks that are being made upon the new tariff bill it is interesting to compare its average rates with the level of other tariff laws.

A statistical estimate shows that the percentage of value levied by this bill upon all imports, both free and dutiable, is about 16%. This compares with the average level of the tariff under the McKinley law of 23%, the Wilson law (Democratic) of 20.9%, the Dingley law of 23.8%, the Payne-Aldrich law of

Cross has since become. She in turn gained much of her inspiration from another great woman—Florence Nightingale.

"The magnificent structure of today grew up around Miss Barton's passionate pity for the sick and the distressed and her practical genius and energy in their relief. She was the ministering angel of the battlefields and hospitals of the Civil War."

"When peace returned she still lived like a soldier, with her field tent and equipment always tucked and ready to

## Has the Farm Board Failed?

The first great problem that confronted the Farm Board when it was organized under the Agricultural Marketing Act, the so-called "Farm Relief" bill, was the fall in the price of wheat. Under the law the Farm Board was not only authorized but directed to take such steps as in its judgment were deemed necessary to "stabilize" the price of any farm product when it appeared that such price was in danger of being unduly depressed by influences apart from the operation of the ordinary law of supply and demand. In obedience to this mandate of the law and in response to demands made by great farm organizations and by members of both Houses of Congress the Farm Board endeavored to stabilize the price of wheat by the organization of the National Grain Cooperative through which it bought large quantities of wheat from time to time. In spite of these measures the price of wheat continued to go down until it has reached lower levels than for many years.

Observing this result, and failing to take note that the price of wheat has fallen in every market in the world, and failing also to take note that non-agricultural products and the securities dealt with on the stock exchanges also have declined although the Farm Board had nothing whatever to do with them, there are those who declare that the Farm Board has failed and that the law should be repealed.

Before falling in with this conclusion the farmers of the country would do well to take certain facts into account. Let us take the prices of farm com-



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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**CHARLES F. SCOTT,**  
Editor.

The Republican Party has never followed strange gods. It has never indulged in the kind of religious fanaticism that has never taught to its followers to enter a Congress by comprehending with destructive influences and uncorrupted forces. It has never done so, I am proud to repeat, and will not do so now in the face of the renewed clamor for half-laked experiments and repudiated populist doctrines, no matter what the source—Representative WILL R. WOOD, of Indiana.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 2nd Issue for June, 1931

10

No. 50

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be edited in any way you like; but it is suggested that if you as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

Memorial Day in Washington is always a notable occasion. Observed with appropriate ceremonies and with marked solemnity by all the patriotic societies, business completely suspended throughout the day, flags floating from every building, the all but countless graves of the soldier dead in beautiful Arlington strewn with flowers, the solemn tread of many columns of marching feet, music from many bands filling the air, addresses by orators of national reputation.

But Memorial Day, 1931, presented one feature new to Washington and new to the whole world. That was the parade of the Air Force of the United States Army. We have not yet become so accustomed to airplanes that we do not lift our heads when we hear the roar of one flying across the sky above us; and most Americans still have enough curiosity about the marvelous machine to keep his eyes on it as long as it remains in view. This one lone bird miraculously defying what we have always thought of as the laws of nature. But if we give so much attention to a single airplane, can you imagine the thrill the half million people assembled Saturday noon along the banks of the Potomac River as it flows past Washington felt when down from the North they saw the great armada coming, squadron after squadron, harrowing the sky like flocks of gigantic geese, sweeping onward with incredible speed, silently at first in the far distance, then a low

## THE PRESIDENT AT VALLEY FORGE

What a trumpet note it was that President Hoover sounded to the people of this Nation at Valley Forge on Memorial Day! The occasion, the place, the historic memories of the victory of fortitude and faith that Washington and his men had won there, seemed to stir the President to his depths. In his mind's eye he saw the huddle of log huts that made up the winter encampment of the little army, half buried in snow. He saw the "ragged Continentals" as they shivered over their fires and shared their meagre rations. He saw the gaunt but majestic figure of their great commander moving among the men, holding them by the sheer force of his personality to the Cause which in their hearts they believed to be lost. Then lifting his eyes the President saw Yorktown and a Free and Independent Nation, and realized as perhaps he never did before that victory had been born out of adversity, that it was the triumph at Valley Forge, where never a volley was fired, the triumph of steadfastness and fortitude over hardship and discouragement, the triumph of faith over the counsels of despair, that really had won the War for Independence.

And in the realization of that heroic fact he found the text for his great address. The fight of Washington and his men was for a country where human initiative would be unhampered, where human energies would find their just reward, where the human spirit would blossom in an atmosphere of independence and self-respect free from the deadening restraints of government and yet where the strong arm of just government would assure to every citizen equal opportunity, a fair chance, security to life, liberty and property.

We of this generation must keep up that fight, the President declared. There is always an easy way out of difficulty. Washington could have lived his life in quietness and ease on the magnificent homestead overlooking the Potomac—as a British subject. The siren sings the song of the easy way to us—the way that looks to Government to solve all our problems, to provide us a living, to pay our debts. But that is not the American way, and we must never allow it to become the American way. Valley

## They Just Can't Learn

It was said of the old Bourbons that they "learned nothing and forgot nothing." Meaning, doubtless, that they learned nothing good and forgot nothing evil. The same statement might apply to a certain class of American statesmen with respect to their attitude toward the tariff. Long ago, when the American farmer had practically no competition in his home market, the statesmen of this type argued with a considerable degree of logic that the interests of the farmer lay in free trade, that he needed no tariff on his own products because similar products were not entering our ports, and that low duties on imported articles would be to his advantage since it would enable him to get a low price for the things he had to buy. That view prevailed among Democratic statesmen even down to late after 1911. When the responsibility of framing a new tariff in that year fell upon a Democratic Congress a law was written which gave agricultural products a very low tariff on one at all. Cattle, sheep and swine, beef, mutton and pork were on the free list. So was milk in any form and honey. While but only 2 1/2 cents duty a pound. Oats were given a duty of 6 cents per bushel, but corn, barley, wheat, rye and cotton were on the free list.

The men who wrote that tariff bill still clung to the old idea that American farm products were in no danger of competition (therefore needed no protection). They failed utterly to take into account the vast areas of new land that had been brought into production in Canada, South America and Russia. It is no less than appalling to imagine to what depths of depression American agriculture would have fallen last year and this if the world-wide crisis had come upon us when virtually all farm products were on the free list. Why on the same date (Feb. 1931) did corn sell at 31 cents in Buenos Aires and at 61 cents

## The President Endorsed

The longer the people of the country have had to think over the speeches that were made by European bankers and industrialists at the recent International Chamber of Commerce Convention in Washington, and the more they have seen the complete selfishness of the appeals these gentlemen made, the more clear it has become that the policy they urged upon the United States is precisely the one which this country should not follow. The visitors should not be criticized too severely, for it was natural with them and should endeavor to promote the interests of their own countries. But charity for their point of view should not, and does not, obscure the Americans the fact that when they speak for Europe and not for America, Senator James J. Davis put it bluntly, but truthfully when he said: "They want to open the American market to their cheap foreign goods and they offer our country a small foreign market in exchange." Other spokesmen for the American viewpoint, and innumerable newspapers cite approvingly President Hoover's address to the International Chamber in which he suggested to the Europeans that if they should trim their war budgets a little and, instead of spending \$5,000,000,000 a year to maintain armaments, should release even a small part of that sum for industrial and commercial enterprises they might be better off, and especially commend the President for giving no encouragement whatever to the visitors to believe that their appeals for a modification of American policies, either in the matter of a cancellation of the debts or a reduction of our protective tariff would become a part of our program. The President's speech undoubtedly struck a popular note for it left no one

## Democrats Ask Tariff Raise

A new light appeared on the Hawley-Smoot tariff law a few days ago when shoe manufacturers in Massachusetts came before the Tariff Commission appealing for an increase in duty. These manufacturers produced evidence to show that their keenest competition came from Czechoslovakia, where shoes are produced at a labor cost only 28% of that involved in American factories. With wages hardly more than one quarter of those paid in America, it was contended that Balkan manufacturers could lay down their product in American markets, pay the present duty of 20% and still sell their product at less than the actual labor cost of American shoes.

A specially interesting feature of the appeal of these Massachusetts manufacturers was that one of the spokesmen for them was Congressman William P. Connerly, a Democrat. No doubt if they had desired they could have had the support also of the other three Democratic Congressmen from their State and the Democratic Senator. Leaders of the Democratic party have had a good deal to say about the "exorbitant" rates of the 1930 tariff act, and yet we have the diverting spectacle of the first major demand for higher protection coming from Democratic Congressmen.

And still nobody should be surprised. It is a role Democratic Congressmen long have played—demanding high tariffs for industries in which their own states are interested while shaping a theme upon the protective system in general.

Incidentally this Massachusetts appeal illustrates the absurdity of the Democratic argument that lower tariffs would mitigate the depression. The tariff on shoes is so low that Czechoslovakia can send the products of her shoe factories here and sell them at less than the labor cost of making them in America. Does that fact mitigate the depression for



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

As an integral part of its policy of protecting American citizens from an inundation of alien goods, the Republican Party believes in protecting them from a flood of inferior products. It is difficult to conceive the possibilities that would have resulted during these months of limited employment if millions of foreigners had been permitted to enter this country but that in precisely what would have happened but for the foresight, courage and astuteness of the Republican Party.

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 3rd Issue for June, 1931

10

No. 51

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

One of the activities of the Federal Government of which little note is taken by the people generally, but which is really of vast importance to the country is the search that is constantly being made all over the world under the direction of the office of Foreign Plant Introduction, Department of Agriculture, for new varieties of plants that may be profitably grown in the United States. Nearly all well informed farmers will remember that they owe Durum wheat and soybeans and many varieties of sorghums to this exploration work. But, it doubtless will be in the nature of news to nearly everybody to learn some of the things that have been accomplished or at least experimented with in more recent years. Some of the recent importations are: A palm tree which yields an edible vegetable from the young shoots, a delicate sugar from its sap, a fragrant fruit of which the hull is edible, and leaves useful for a variety of purposes; a potato substitute which grows to the size of a large pumpkin; and a blueberry which grows well on dry, sandy soil far from streams; a raspberry with fruit more than three-fourths of an inch long; a very tough, short Japanese grass which may prove to be of especial usefulness on golf courses; a 35-foot tree of which the leaves can be substituted for spinach, and honeysuckles which, after blooming, bear edible fruits.

Another activity of the Federal Gov.

## The Flexible Tariff

To estimate at its true value the criticism seen in some quarters of the flexible provision of the new tariff law it is well to remember that the only difference with respect to it between Democrats and Republicans when the bill was under consideration was whether the reports of the Tariff Commission should be turned over to Congress or to the President. The Democrats declared that the reports should be sent to the Congress and that no change in any tariff rate should be made until Congress had approved. The Republicans insisted that the reports should be sent to the President, and that he should be given power to alter any tariff rate upon which the Commission had reported to a figure not to exceed 50 per cent. of the existing rate, either up or down.

In the presence of this record it seems rather absurd for Democratic critics to denounce the provision on the score that it will keep the tariff always in politics. With power in the hands of the President at once and whether Congress is in session or not to declare whether a given rate shall be raised or lowered or left alone, certainly the tariff is out of politics far more effectively than if the question whether a change should be made in any schedule must await the slow action of Congress which might debate it interminably.

Another thing to remember about this matter is that the Tariff Commission was originally appointed by President Wilson and that it is made up of six members, three of whom are outstanding Democrats. So there can be no partisan action. As a matter of fact every recommendation thus far made to the President has been by the unanimous vote of the Commission.

During the last two weeks of May contracts for public works, chiefly highways, were placed for \$2,000,000 and for

## The President and Wages

It is universally conceded that the conference which President Hoover called with representatives of the great industries and of labor in November, 1929, at which industry pledged him that it would demand no reductions in wages because of the depression and in which labor gave him its promise that it would do everything within its power to maintain industrial peace, was directly responsible for the fact that the depression through which the country has been passing has been singularly free from industrial disturbances of any kind. Without exception, previous similar periods have been marked by drastic wage cuts, by strikes, lockouts and other forms of industrial warfare. That these have been avoided during the past 18 months is due wholly to the initiative and the influence of the President.

But as the period of dull business continues, certain influences are beginning to exert strong pressure in the direction of reducing wages. This pressure seems especially to be coming from the great banking interests who hold that reduction in the price of products which would presumably follow reduced wages would stimulate consumption and thereby promote business activity.

But, the President is not in agreement with this school of thought. At the American Bankers Association Convention in Cleveland nearly a year ago he openly rebuked suggestions for lower wages which were voiced before the convention. He believes that maintenance of high wage levels with resulting increased consumption power will provide more jobs to relieve present unemployment. He has steadily endeavored to impress this viewpoint upon men who control important industries and thus far he has been able to prevent any important reduction of wages anywhere.

The President's latest move in support of his view has been the appointment, through Secretary of Labor Doak, of a committee of economists, labor leaders and officials to study the effect of machine production on unemployment. The result of this study will have an important bearing on the wage question and the announcement of its findings will be awaited with keen

## A Farmer's Prayer

An Illinois farmer wrote the following prayer and sent it to the Illinois State Journal for publication:

"Oh, Lord: I am thankful I am not like other folk; and yet, I am not thankful I am not the owner of city real estate. I am thankful that I own no stocks and bonds which I had bought at peak prices. I am grateful for guidance that kept me out of the speculative grain markets. I have not drilled an oil well and I am thankful for that. It is good not to have to read the stock market quotations each morning before prayer and breakfast to learn how much poorer I am than I was the day before. I am pleased that I am not in retail merchandising with a bulging ledger of unpaid bills. I thank thee, O Lord, that I am not a laboring man without a job or in danger of losing it. I wear no white collar to the office, wondering whether I am to remain until night. I surely am fortunate that I am not a coal operator nor steel manufacturer nor a railroad official hunting trade where there is no trade.

"I am only a poor farmer with 160 acres of Illinois gumbo, all paid for. Once it was worth more but I didn't sell it and, thank thee, I did not buy more at that price.

"Give me, O Lord, my pigs and cows and chickens, my health and my strength and my faith. I am not making money but I am not losing so much that I face disaster and hunger. I live on three bounteous meals a day. These, thou hast provided me, whatsoever happens.

"Once I looked with envy upon these, my fellow citizens. I thought they lived in luxury and peace. This morning, O Lord, bless them and comfort them and give them divine grace to face their plight. May the day of upturn and better things come for all of us. I am grateful to thee for the small blessing that thou hast given me and mine and my wife that thou fall upon me and mine and my

## Glue and Fish Glue

Here are two interesting things to remember when reading or hearing denunciation of the "extortionate" rates of the new tariff law:

1. The flexible section of the law provides that any member of Congress may offer a resolution which, when passed by either House becomes a mandate to the Tariff Commission to investigate any rate or rates named in the resolution to determine whether said rate or rates are unjust.

2. Only four Democratic senators have sought to obtain such investigation, and no member of the House.

Either there can't be anything very wrong with the bill, or Democratic members of Congress are most remiss in their duty.

And what are the "iniquitous" rates upon which these four senators direct their attacks? Senator Wagner demands a reduction in the duty on "steel pens and pens of other metals not specially provided for." Senator McKellar demands an investigation into the "extortionate" rates on pineapples. Senator Hayden attacks the "wicked industrial schedules" pertaining to tomatoes, peppers and peas. And Senator Barkley is outraged over the "abominable" duties on gelatin, glue, glue and fish glue! "Much cry and little wool," as the devil is said to have remarked when he sheared his sheep!

Secretary Mellon, in a recent address to foreign bankers, made a statement that must have set them to thinking, coming here as they did with arguments by which they thought they could convince our business leaders that American wages are too high. Mr. Mellon said:

"Purchasing power, insofar as America is concerned, is dependent to a great extent on the standard of living which obtains in this



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee

## Weekly Letter

VOL. I

Washington, D. C. 4th Issue for June, 1931

### News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

Washington, D. C.—The big event in Washington political circles last week was a national conference of young Republicans. The Conference was sponsored by the National Committee, with the cordial cooperation and very effective assistance of the National Capital Republican Club. It was the first event of this kind ever undertaken by either political party and the outcome of it was awaited with a great deal of interest and curiosity. Democratic observers declared that the proposed conference was certain to be a "duff"; and even its sponsors were a bit nervous and uneasy. In an off-year politically, and in the middle of the summer, it is laying a pretty heavy strain upon party enthusiasm to ask young men and women to come to Washington from all over the country at their own expense for nothing more attractive or substantial than a political conference.

But they came! To the consternation of Democratic observers and to the frankly admitted surprise even of the sponsors of the Conference, delegates present from practically every state in the Union. More than 500 were registered and the two days program of Republican speeches elicited a "Hoover crowd." It was obviously a "Hoover crowd" although every effort had been made to have it so. Every reference to the President which admitted of applause at all received it in full

### Foreigners Seem Satisfied

Under the new tariff law any foreign government which feels itself aggrieved by any schedule in the law may petition the Tariff Commission for rate relief. The new law became operative 10 months ago and yet up to this time manufacturers in only four nations have taken advantage of this provision and they have applied for cuts in only a dozen commodities. These petitions will be given prompt and absolutely fair-minded consideration since the Commission is made up of three Republicans and three Democrats, and every report thus far made has been by unanimous vote. Time is sure to vindicate the wisdom of the President in insisting that the new tariff law carry in its very terms the provision for its own amendment.

### Advertising as Factor in Better Business

Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, declares that newspaper advertising is one of the most important factors in restoring normal conditions in business. In a recent statement he said:

"It is doubtful if there is any one in the business world today so far behind the times as to question the value of advertising. The results of this medium of trade stimulation have been too evident to make it necessary to defend it. We all have seen the phenomenal growth of various American firms which have been consistent and prolific advertisers. We all know, too, that when we are in the market for a product, be it an automobile, a radio, a hat, a collar or a can of paint, we make our decision largely as a result of advertising we have read."

### WHY PROTECTION IS ASSAILED

There are two sources of attack upon the American system of protection, and particularly upon the new tariff law. One of them is political, the effort of Democratic leaders, interested of course in the success of their own party, and therefore embracing any opportunity to break down the popularity of the Republican party. The other is commercial, headed by international bankers who have vast sums of money loaned in Europe, and who think their investments would be more secure if the American market were open to European products; and American manufacturers who have built factories in other countries in order to take advantage of the cheap labor that exists there and would profit by a law which would admit the product of these factories to America with a low rate of duty.

As an illustration of the attitude and activity of these classes, the international bankers and manufacturers, the New York Journal of Commerce reports that "A campaign to lower tariff barriers was launched here yesterday with the announcement that a council for tariff reduction is in process of being organized. Prominent leaders, economists, editors and manufacturers are listed among those forming the council." The Journal of Commerce adds that a letter has been sent to George Theunis, of Belgium, President of the International Chamber, informing him of the plans and objectives of the council and declaring its purpose to be to press upon Congress "the absolute need of prompt action at the approaching session on the tariff."

While one source of attack upon the tariff is political and the other is commercial and financial, the purpose of both is the same: To open American markets to larger importations of foreign wares and products. Necessarily that would mean cheaper competition of foreign labor with American wage earners. It would mean an invasion of home markets, now protected for the benefit of our farmers, fruit growers, dairymen, miners, lumbermen, fishermen and others who derive their support from the production and manufacture of American products, and through marketing in the great consuming centers of the United States. Can anybody believe that the interest of American work-

### President as a Worker

The President's political foes are not backward in criticizing his political policies, but they frankly yield him the rank of the hardest worker that Washington ever saw in the White House, with powers of concentration and analysis that are difficult for the ordinary man to comprehend. It is said of him that when dictating, if interrupted by a telephone call, he will stop in the middle of a sentence, talk for several minutes on the telephone and then return to his dictation will take up the sentence where he left off without asking the stenographer to repeat. To anyone who has had any experience in dictating, and in being interrupted, that story presents a most remarkable illustration of intellectual power. The President seems to have a card index mind, to be able to recall at will everything he knows upon any given topic, and to pass easily from one complicated subject to the next. It is an invaluable quality, acquisition, endowment—by whatever name it may be called—to a man who must administer the incredibly exacting duties of the Presidency.

### 1930 Not So Bad

"We all did our best to make 1930 a year of no activity whatever." So wrote a magazine contributor last month, and he did not much exaggerate. Practically everybody "talked poor." The whole year was poor, of course, because of irregular employment. But hundreds of thousands who worked steadily through the year at their usual wage, the purchasing power of which made it really an advance of 30% over what it had

### Farm Board Saved Business

Opponents of the Agricultural Marketing Act have criticized the Farm Board on the score that when, through the agency of a great cooperative organization it went into the open market and at various times bought great quantities of wheat and cotton it violated sound economic principles. These critics have insisted that an attempt on the part of the government to fix the price of any product is not sound policy and is likely in the long run to lead to disaster.

There are times, however, when exceptions must be made in the soundest of rules, and Congressman Fort of New Jersey, has recently given out a statement which seems to show that the Farm Board, in entering the market for both wheat and cotton, acted in the presence of a great emergency and with results that justified its action. Mr. Fort declares that the purchase of cotton by the Farm Board saved scores of banks in the South from closing and hundreds, if not thousands, of planters from bankruptcy. In like manner, the purchase of wheat at the time it was done, seemed imperative in order to avert widespread disaster. Banks west of the Mississippi were carrying over one hundred million bushels of wheat, and probably as much more east of the river, when the prices in Winnipeg and London began to break. In a single day sixty-two banks closed in one state alone and panic was everywhere possible. If the wheat loans had been called generally as it is inevitable they would for the action of the Farm Board, the price would have broken far below the figure it did reach and business, big and little, banks, large and small, would have been forced into liquidation. Mr. Fort declares it is his

TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
—the courageous! I have lived a long time. I have seen history repeat itself again and again. I have seen many depressions in business. Always America has emerged from them stronger and more prosperous. Be as brave as your fathers were before you. Have faith. Go forward.  
—Thomas A. Edison.

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No. 52

X-JK 2352



X-JK 2355

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—No utterance of President Hoover since his inauguration has been so widely printed as the address he made at Indianapolis last week and nothing he has said at any time has received such universal editorial commendation. Newspapers of all political faiths and of none, newspapers which support the President and those who oppose him, have paid tribute to the sincerity, the frankness, the courage and the common sense which characterized this address, conceding it at once to be the utterance of a statesman sure of his principles, sure of his facts, sure of himself, sure of his country and his countrymen. And this unanimity of sentiment is all the more surprising because of the highly controversial nature of the topic the President chose to discuss. Brevity in his very first sentence, the President declared: "The business depression is the dominant subject before the country and the world today."

\* \* \* I propose to discuss it and the policies of the Government in respect to it. Nothing could more directly have challenged the attention of the country and if the discussion which followed this challenge had held a flaw in its logic, or if it had fallen in any degree away from the high plane of dignity, intelligence and statesmanship which the exalted position of the speaker warranted the country in expecting, there would have been no lack of criticism.

But the address met the expectation

## Hoover's Robust Faith

The New York Times is a Democratic paper, but it does not permit its partisanship to cloud its patriotism. It devoted a long editorial to complimentary comment upon the President's recent Indiana speech and this is the last paragraph:  
On the whole, it is an excellent speech, well considered, well timed and precisely on the note which ought to be struck at present. As an offset to the prevailing dejection, the President's robust faith in the assured future of this country comes as a happy reinforcement for all who are struggling with adversity and are deterred, as he is, to conquer it. His address so plainly inclines to hope rather than fear that it will tend to quicken the hopes and banish the fears of great numbers of his fellow countrymen.

## Hoover, the Doctor

The majority of the American people generally get right if given time enough to think it over quietly. At times they may be stampeded, but after the excitement is over and reason is restored they drift back to common sense solution of the questions that trouble. The trend of opinion now is back to the realization that Dr. Hoover is a dependable family physician after all. The patient was sicker than they thought. The doctor stayed in the sick room, waited, watched, worked and prescribed. He was not responsible for the disease. His duty was to cure if possible. He was patient, loyal and skilled. At times relatives and friends were most ready to rob him because he would not prescribe some of their quick remedies. True to his profession he remained steadfast. Faint signs of improvement in the patient's condition began to show. The chance was "there" it at first to doubt.

Washington, D. C. 1st Issue for July, 1931

## Getting Ready for Winter

Even if times get much better, as there are now hopeful indications that they will, it can hardly be expected that all the unemployed can have found jobs before cold weather comes. President Hoover recognizes this and with his characteristic far look ahead he has instructed the Emergency Committee, which he appointed last year to help relieve the situation created by the great drought, to organize and coordinate relief agencies in preparation for any need that may arise.

First there is to be a wide and searching inquiry. Conditions actual and prospective in all cities above 25,000 population will be determined.

Then the aim is to effect a union of community councils and the Red Cross, and always working together with the local municipal authorities, in order to make sure that the unemployed will be given work when possible and aid when necessary.

The initiation of this program again reveals Mr. Hoover at his best, the sympathetic friend of humanity eager to prevent or relieve human suffering, and the great executive, looking far ahead to provide means by which those likely to be in need of help will be assured of receiving it. It reveals him also as the statesman, sanely guiding the nation away from the morass of a dole system by sending Washington out to the country instead of waiting for the country to descend upon Washington; guiding the nation away also from the possibility of riot and sedition by giving assurance in advance that no one will be allowed to starve or freeze next winter for lack of work. How much better it is to mobilize the abundant means and the unimpaired generosity of the American people which are able to take care of their own in an emergency, rather than to make those temporarily in need permanent pensioners upon the government; and how much better to forestall wild agitation and possible violent uprising by bread than to wait until trouble has started and then suppress it with armed force.

Fortunate indeed for America that at such a time as this there sits in the White House a man who has had and has

## The Worst Disloyalty

President Hoover: "There are disloyalties and there are crimes which shock our sensibilities, which may bring suffering upon those who are touched by their immediate results. But there is no disloyalty and no crime in all the category of human weaknesses which compares with the failure of probity in the conduct of public trust. Monetary loss or even a passing thing, but the breaking down of the faith of a people in the honesty of their government and in the integrity of their institutions, the loss of respect for the standards of honor which prevail in high places, are crimes for which punishment can never atone."

## Common Sense—Not Magic

The President stated what everybody knows down in his heart is the truth when, in response to appeals to call Congress in extra session he said: "We cannot legislate ourselves out of world economic depression. We can and will work ourselves out."

The depression began with the stock exchange collapse in November, 1929. Congress was in session at the time and remained in session practically all the time from then until March 4, 1931. If there had been legislative remedy during those long months, what reason has anybody to believe that Congress could do now if it were assembled, what it failed to do when it was in session?

Good laws can make it easier for the people to work back to good times, and bad laws can make it harder. There can be no question that the Hawley-Smoot tariff law, passed June 17, 1930,

No. 1

## Those "Retaliatory" Tariffs

It is rather the habit of the governors of Kansas to regard themselves as official advisers to the President, and no general surprise was expressed, therefore, when Governor Woodring (Dem.) of that state recently addressed a long telegram to Mr. Hoover urging him to arrange reciprocity tariff duties with foreign governments at once as a sovereign remedy for worldwide depression. Through one of his secretaries, the President calmly responded that he has no authority under any law to arrange reciprocity tariff duties with foreign governments and therefore could not comply with the Governor's request. Incidentally, the President, through his Secretary, took occasion to remark that the so-called "retaliatory action" by foreign governments against the President's American tariff has been against items in the agricultural schedule. The President did not enter into detail, but in this connection it must be of interest to quote Premier Borden, of Canada, who remarks that "The more notable increases concerned live hogs, fresh meats, bacon, hams and shoulders, shell eggs, cheese, hops, powdered milk, peas, corn and hay, field root and garden seeds, canned fruit and vegetables, raisins and oranges." That is to say, Canada is protecting its agriculture by raising tariff duties just as Congress did in the Hawley-Smoot Act.

And the same thing is true in large measure with regard to the so-called "retaliatory" duties of European countries. These countries suffered terribly during the World War because of their unbalanced agriculture, as a result of which they were obliged to import a large proportion of their food and thus were left in dire straits when these imports were cut off by the war. They are determined not to be caught this way again, and so France, Germany, the

With honest merchandise, commodities, by prompt, faithfully advertised, and sale will be secure. We have the productive capacity, the raw materials, and the capital resources, and the probable balance, (only the demand is lacking). It is the function of advertising to create the demand. More emphasis is required than that essential fact. The economic benefit of increased consumption within the means of the producer is not yet fully understood. Better publicity is the answer.  
—Chas. W. Coe, Chicago.



X-JK2325

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

There are three quarters of a million more farmers in cooperatives now than there were two years ago and the cooperatives themselves, with few exceptions, are better established. Last year the volume of business carried by the cooperatives was valued at \$700,000,000. All classes of cooperatives are flourishing. By this cooperative movement—the ideal marketing system, direct from the producer to the consumer.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. 2nd Issue for July, 1931

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No. 2

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—This letter last week began with the statement: "No utterance of President Hoover since his inauguration has been so widely printed as the address he made at Indianapolis last week, and nothing he has said at any time has received such universal editorial commendation."

But the President had hardly returned from his trip to Indiana before he gave out a statement that challenged the attention of the whole world as startlingly as his Indianapolis address had commanded the interest of his own country. It doubtless is no exaggeration to say that every important newspaper on the globe, no matter in what tongue published, has printed in a conspicuous place in its pages during the past week, the proposal by President Hoover that there be a year's moratorium in the payment of all intergovernmental debts and the overwhelming majority of these newspapers has given the proposal editorial endorsement. Not in newspaper columns only, but in the chancelleries of the nations and in business circles everywhere, this proposal by the President has been hailed as a stroke of the highest statesmanship, an inspiration which may prove to be the beginning of the end of international economic distress and which certainly will give an added impulse to international comity and good will.

That these results are likely to follow and that the proposal made with

## Vermont as a Farm State

It would astonish and perhaps vex a lot of Middle West farmers, especially those out in Iowa, "where the tall corn grows" and those in the lower reaches of the Kaw Valley in Kansas where potatoes do not grow small, to learn that Vermont in 1930 ranked third among all the states of the Union in the yield of corn per acre, fourth as to potatoes, second as to buckwheat and well above the average on nearly all, if not all, of northern grown crops. As to the six staple cereal crops produced in Vermont, the value per acre is double the value per acre for the country. Not to mention an annual production of 1,250,000,000 pounds of milk from more cows per square acre than any other state. Folks out West seldom think of Vermont as producing anything except maple sugar—and that mostly confined to the label on the can.

## Advertising Builds Business

Most businesses throughout the country found 1930 a year of depression. But K. L. Hamman, president of a large West Coast firm of advertising counselors, can give you a list of 152 national organizations that did a bigger business last year than ever before.

Every one of these organizations increased the advertising budget for 1931 over that of 1930.  
After the close of the World War, when war workers were being released from their jobs and 3,000,000 soldiers were returning to peace-time employment, there was a great deal of apprehension in the business community. Roger W. Babson, at that time a government official, pointed out the way to safety and security, and so long as his organization flourished in the govern-

## Soviet or Republic?

In his Indianapolis speech President Hoover used these pregnant and momentous words:

"The issue is whether we shall go on with our American system \* \* or shall directly or indirectly regiment the population into a bureaucracy to serve the State, use force instead of cooperation in plans and thereby direct every man as to what he may or may not do."

In those words the President named the great issue. The people may not see it now. Other things are so near their eyes—tariff, farm relief, prohibition, foreign commerce, unemployment.

But the penetrating eye of the President, looking beneath the superficial and ephemeral, looking beyond the limited horizon of the here and the now, sees to the heart of the great problem and knows that it reaches to the very foundations of the Republic. And so in solemn words he warns us. Thus far America has been built upon a system which holds that the major purpose of a State is to protect the people and to give them equality of opportunity, that the basis of all happiness is in development of the individual, that the sum of progress can only be gauged by the progress of the individual, that we should steadily build up cooperation among the people themselves to these ends. Shall we stand by that system and remain America, or shall we regiment the population into a bureaucracy and direct every man as to what he may or may not do, and become another Russia?

There is the real issue. Individualism or collectivism, capitalism or communism. Americanism or Bolshevism, the Republic or the Soviet?

This issue, in set terms, may not be fought out in the next campaign. But the outcome of that campaign will have a very direct bearing on it, one way or another. The Republican party stands for the American system. The coalition that will oppose the Republican party in Congress and out, is against that system. It is fighting for measures which, if adopted will undermine the

## Arkansas Coming Back

Gratifying evidence of the rapidity with which the state of Arkansas is coming back to normal, largely through the wisdom with which aid funds contributed by the Federal government and through the Red Cross have been administered, is afforded by a report from the State Bank Commissioner which shows that of the 143 banks which failed during the period from Nov. 17, 1930, to early in February, 1931, 75 have re-opened. One of the lessons Arkansas has learned from the drought which it will never forget, is that one of the uses of a farm is to raise food for man and beast. There are more gardens in Arkansas this summer than ever before in the history of the State, and more field forage and grain crops.

It is the estimate of government statisticians that in spite of large scale unemployment we yet have 35,000,000 or more whose income has not been curtailed, constituting a larger buying power than any other two nations in the world. There is still a lot of business going on in these old United States.

## Back Up a Big Program

Former Governor Harding, of Iowa, put the case very clearly when he said that in storing up what the government merely is doing, but what the individual farmer once did, but what cannot be done through individual effort now. The quantity of what the government now buys, perhaps 250,000,000 bushels, seems a tremendous amount. And yet it is only two bushels per capita for

## Sugar and Wool

Challenged again and again through weeks and months to descend from generalities to details and tell the country just what schedules in the new tariff bill are too high instead of encouraging the whole bill as "wholesome" and "extortionate," Executive Chairman Shouse, of the Democratic national committee, at last has been smoked out. In a statement given to the press on the anniversary of the signing of the bill, Mr. Shouse admits sugar and wool as the two most inextinguishable items in the bill.

This statement again reveals the Democratic party as a house divided against itself. Senate records show that when the motion was made to increase the duty on sugar to the present figure, nine Democratic Senators voted for—Ashurst, Bessard, Dill, Fletcher, Hayden, King, Randall, Thomas (Okla.) and Townsend.

Without these Democratic votes the duty on sugar could not have been increased, so if a mistake has been made the Democrats must at least share the responsibility.  
As to wool, when an effort was made in the Senate to reduce the duty from 34 cents a pound to 31 cents, again nine Democratic Senators—not just the same nine—voted against the reduction—Ashurst, Bratton, Broussard, Connally, Dill, Hayden, Kendrick, Sheppard and Wheeler. Thus once more Mr. Shouse challenges senators of his own party.

Mr. Shouse challenges members of his own party also when, in this same statement, he launches a bitter attack upon the Tariff Commission for its failure to reduce rates under the tariff act. Perhaps he forgets that there are as many Democrats on the Tariff Commission as there are Republicans, so here again, if a mistake has been made the responsibility must be shared between the two parties. He must have fore-



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. 3rd Issue for July, 1931

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—The common saying "A nine-days wonder" doubles grew out of the fact that only an event of the first importance can hold the attention of the people for even so short a period as nine days. The super-importance of President Hoover's debt moratorium proposal can therefore be estimated when it is recalled that for three weeks now it has held the place of first importance on the news and editorial pages of the newspapers of Europe and America. Up to the date of this writing interest has concentrated chiefly upon the negotiations which have been going on in Paris with daily telephone communication to and from Washington, between representatives of the United States and of the Government of France. Politics in France is more delicately balanced perhaps than in any other country. The people are emotional and volatile, public sentiment is quickly aroused and under the parliamentary system can be made instantly effective. There is no point upon which French people are more sensitive than the relations of their country with Germany, and it was inevitable that when a proposal was presented which asked France to forego financial benefits of considerable magnitude in order that help might be extended to the tottering government of Germany, it was but natural that the first French reaction should be one of suspicion, easily growing into resentment. In order to maintain itself in power, therefore, the

## Give Him a Square Deal

Pittsfield (Mass.) Eagle: "America, opposing political America, should reverse its spirit; and give Mr. Hoover a square deal. We should rise superior to the small town stuff in national business. We should give our President at least an even break. While everyone is talking about his successor let us remember that the nation never had a President of finer personal type—of a character that washes today and every day. Good sportsmanship would prompt the wish that every success should attend him in his attempt to recapture the West. No man ever deserved kinder treatment at the hands of his countrymen. He would have them employed and contented. He would have their standards of living the highest on earth."

## Robinson, Economist

From the Iola (Kan.) Daily Register  
Some people can think up the most astonishing things. Senator Joe Robinson (who ought to know something) criticizes President Hoover for effecting economies in the postal, navy and other governmental departments upon the score that it will hurt business! Recalling the fact that Mr. Hoover has urged industry to conduct business as usual without reduction of personnel or diminution of wages, he wails loudly over the fact that "we now find the government cutting down on postoffice deliveries, decreasing navy personnel and generally engaging in just such a campaign of reduction as he specifically bound private industry to avoid."  
Is it actually possible that the Senator believes this—that he does not distinguish the difference between economies

## Business Beating Back

Reports received by the President's Emergency Committee for Employment made public June 30 contained many indications of improvement in business and employment conditions. The most favorable reports are from New England areas where business has been improving steadily since the first of the year, especially the boot and shoe and woolen industries which are now above normal. Some woolen plants are working day and night in getting out contract orders. Merchants in New England report the number of transactions above last year, and the retail trade generally encouraging.

In Chicago several large manufacturing concerns have re-employed several thousand men and railroad shops that have been shut down are being reopened. Retail stores report sales approximating those for the same period last year.

In Minneapolis, Minnesota, the general tone of business is improved and employment conditions show some gain.

Exports of metal working machinery through Europe over the country at large were far greater than through any years since the abnormal activity of 1919.

Exports of cotton from the United States in the first 5 months of 1931 were in excess of shipments for the corresponding months of 1930.

Commercial stocks of all principal grains except barley and flax in store and afloat at the United States markets were smaller June 30 by many millions of bushels in the aggregate than a year ago. Other favorable factors in the agricultural situation, according to official reports, are the lowest prices in ten years for commodities which farmers buy, and recent gains in prices for farm products following the debt moratorium proposal.

In a general review covering the first half of the year, Standard Statistics Co. states: "It is our opinion that the basis is being laid for an extended period of recovery."

One hundred and fifty-five business paper editors assembled in New York announced their belief that "business in the United States has rid itself of all overhanging burdens accumulated during

## The Queer Old Days

The late Senator Horace Mann chafed at his autobiography that up to the time of his retirement from public life there was not in the history of his state a candidate for United States Senator. The state legislature looked over the man, considered and chose the man it considered best qualified to creditably and usefully represent the state. That any man should offer himself for the honor, much less try to force himself upon the legislature, was considered improper. What quaint notions they had in the Old Bay State in the old gray days! But some of the old men mentioned to be fairly well represented—Daniel Webster, Charles Sumner, George F. Hoar, Henry Cabot Lodge.

## De-humanizing Hoover

Certain Democratic leaders not even excluding Senator Robinson, have apparently got a good deal of amusement out of what they derisively declare to be the efforts of his friends to "humanize Mr. Hoover." It is being gradually realized by the people throughout the country that these same Democratic leaders, ever since Mr. Hoover was inaugurated, have been deliberately endeavoring to de-humanize him. They have been trying to make it appear that the President is cold, aloof, taking no joy in the companionship of his fellow men, having no interest in or sympathy for the masses of the people. Nobody knows better than these leaders what an utter distortion of the President's pictures they undertake to paint of him really are. They have not forgotten the work Mr. Hoover did in organizing relief for Belgium before the war, in administering the food problem in Amer-

## The Approval of An Expert

Political critics of the Hawley tariff bill, among other allegations against it have charged that American manufacturers have found it a bar to their foreign trade and have been particularly derisive of the flexible provisions of the law, declaring them to be futile and ineffective.

But strangely enough American manufacturers themselves do not concur in this criticism. It would seem as if they should be the best judges as to the effect of the law upon their business and it is therefore specially interesting to find Mr. H. L. Derby, chairman of the tariff committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, giving the bill emphatic endorsement, and particularly approving the flexible provision. Following the recent announcement by President Hoover of recommendations of the Tariff Commission dealing with numerous products Mr. Derby gave out a statement in which, after summarizing the Tariff Commission's recommendations, he made the following most significant assertions:

"Agriculture, labor and industry have steadfastly supported the flexible tariff. Those who are out of sympathy with these three great arteries of our body economic, and who have criticized the Hawley-Smoot bill as a stone wall against improved business, fail utterly to take into consideration the prime necessities for just such a system of modern tariff business application—the changing conditions in Europe and the wholesale reductions in wage rates which must inevitably threaten the stability of industry, labor and agriculture in the United States."

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No. 3

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

The achievement (debt moratorium) is as nearly a tremendous personal triumph as any accomplishment of the leader of a great nation can be. In its principle and its splendid scope, the plan was the President's. He made it public personally. He carried on all the negotiations personally. He made the definite final announcement himself. He personally selected his own Secretary of State. Americans may properly exult at the part which their country and their President have played in a great post-war drama.  
—Boston Herald.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. 4th Issue for July, 1931

No. 4

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like, but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—The President of the United States does not voice idle rumor nor make haphazard statements. When he declares, therefore, as he did the other day, that "certain persons are selling short in our commodity markets, particularly in wheat," it may be taken for granted that he speaks by the card. The President was careful to say that he did not refer to the ordinary hedging transactions which are a sound part of our marketing system, nor to legitimate grain trade. He did refer to a limited number of speculators whose one purpose seems to be to depress prices, and he denounced them in severest terms for their efforts to destroy returning public confidence, to take a profit from the losses of other people. It was a timely and well deserved rebuke, and manifests the deep concern the President has over the continued low price of wheat and his determination that nothing he can do to start it on an upgrade shall be omitted.

In this connection many keen observers of the markets have not failed to note that on many occasions within the past two years when an upturn in the prices of securities on the stock exchanges became manifest there was inevitably a determined bear raid, the result of which was to bring prices down to the original or perhaps to a lower level. This has happened so consistently that it can hardly be regarded as a mere accident or the result of ordinary

Farm leaders, said to represent one-half the farm population of the United States, at a recent meeting in Chicago adopted an emphatic resolution endorsing the farm marketing act and urging all farmers to rally to its support. These leaders, having no selfish purpose to serve whatever, but considering solely the well being of American agriculture, declared that the Farm Marketing Act "promises to be as permanent as the Interstate Commerce Act, and no less useful." It is well to bear in mind that criticism of the Farm Board and the law is endeavoring to enforce comes for the most part from commercial sources, from firms and individuals whose business is the handling of farm products which naturally they buy as low as they can, and not from organizations which the farmers themselves maintain.

## Solving the Alien Problem

A report from the Department of Labor shows that during the first four months of this year, for the first time perhaps in our history, more aliens left the United States than entered. A good many of those who departed, did so by request. It is estimated that there are probably 400,000 aliens within our borders who have no right to be here. Either they entered unlawfully, or they have committed some crime that makes them subject to deportation. Just as fast as these can be found they are sent back where they belong. It is not done harshly and the rights of the alien are given every reasonable safeguard. But if an appeal is taken to a court and the court decides they must go—they go.

Through the entire year, however, ending June 30, the number of aliens

## The Farm Board's Answer

The Farm Board has been requested from numerous quarters to have the stabilization corporation announce specific prices below which the corporation would not sell its stabilization holdings, that prices ranging from 85c to \$1 or more a bushel be maintained. The answer of the Board is that this to fix a price at which the corporation would sell would not be in the interest of the farmers. If a high price were fixed then stabilization holdings would never be disposed of and would continue to overhang the future of American agriculture. If a reasonable price were fixed on today's outlook, such a declaration would tend to keep the price depressed to a point below such limits. It would distort the whole movement of wheat and congest storage by inducing excessive shipments whenever the price began to approach the figure set.

The Board wishes it to be clearly understood that no immediate sales of wheat will be made at the present range of prices, and at no time does it propose to sell more than a maximum of five million bushels per month between July 1, 1931, and July 1, 1932. The Board has given an absolute and unqualified pledge that the sales program will be conducted in such fashion as not to depress the movement in price. The Farm Board is more anxious than anybody else is that the price of wheat should advance for it has, through the stabilization corporation, larger holdings than anybody else, and also for the reason that the sole purpose of its existence is to promote the interests of American agriculture.

It remains to be said, and it should not be forgotten, that the policy of the Board, as above outlined, was not announced until the American wheat producers, represented by their cooperative associations, were consulted and their concurrence generally received. The policy of the Board is virtually a recommendation of the organized wheat growers of America.

## American Factories Abroad

Important industries in the industrially developed countries of Europe.

As an illustration of the service the government and this Administration is rendering the people an interesting statement recently has come from the Department of Commerce showing that during the year 1930, 1,835 American firms reported that through assistance given them by the Department, they had received foreign business which they otherwise would not have obtained amounting to \$50,754,545. This was an increase over the business of the same firms during the preceding boom year of \$8,000,000, and shows that in times of depression, even more than in times of prosperity, American firms turn to this governmental agency for assistance in developing their foreign trade.

## Flexing the Flexible

Despotic pessimistic predictions that the flexible tariff would never do any flexing it seems to be functioning right along. Within the past few days, by proclamation of the President on recommendation of the Tariff Commission, increases have been made in the duties on three commodities and decreases on four others. The President also approved the recommendation of the Commission that no change be made in the duty on five commodities.

The increases were in the duty on dried eggs from 18 cents to 27 cents per pound, hemp cordage from 3 1/4 cents to 4 1/4 cents per pound, and bells for bicycles from 50 per cent to 70 per cent ad valorem.

The tariff on Bentwood furniture was lowered from 47 1/2 per cent to 42 1/2 per cent ad valorem; that on packaged olive oil from 9 1/2 to 8 cents per pound, pipe organ and parts from 60 per cent to 55 per cent ad valorem, and pipe organs

## A Hoover Revival

Peoria (Ill.) Transcript.—For the immediate present Mr. Hoover is the only outstanding man in the United States who is adhering rigidly to the American system. His courage in taking this position has undoubtedly increased his prestige.

Moreover, the American public is beginning to sympathize with a hard-working President who is fighting patriotically and politically innocent of putting in motion the causes of world depression. Whatever the future may develop, there is small doubt that there is a Hoover revival. Finally, a President of the United States who announces he will spend the summer in Washington looking after the nation's business, must be regarded as a good scout as well as a painstaking engineer.

"I am a Cantonese," said Dr. C. C. Wu, Chinese Minister to Washington, explaining his resignation when his government asked him to request the State Department temporarily to remove the arms embargo so that shipments might be made to China for use against the so-called government at Canton. And in that simple statement Dr. Wu disclosed the source of all China's woes. There is no such thing in China as national feeling. The only loyalty a Chinese recognizes is to his village or his city or his province. And so the civil wars continue endlessly.

## Some Tariffs Too Low

Just to show that it is as easy to make arguments in favor of higher rates as it is to argue for lower rates, Mr. George B. Lockwood, editor and publisher of the Muncie (Ind.) Evening Press, calls attention to the fact that there are at least 50 large lines of production in which the competition of



XJK 2352

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

Second question no President who, through the chance that rule business, first a major economic depression in his first year of office. The paper and confidence of the voters in Mr. Hoover. Even those who have found politics to be a game have not hesitated to express their satisfaction in having the expert ability and the complete integrity of Mr. Hoover in the White House during a period of storm and stress.  
—New York Tribune.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. July 23, 1931

No. 5

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like. But it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

Washington, D. C.—The writer of these lines was brought up in Kansas where a rainfall in the middle of summer always is followed by a sharp life saving drop in temperature. He supposed that this is what happened always and everywhere whenever there was a downpour of rain on a hot day. He was surprised, therefore, when he visited the tropics to discover that so far from lowering the temperature rainfall there made the weather even warmer and more oppressive. And he has been further surprised here in Washington this summer to find that in this respect the national capital is repeating the experience of the tropics. All through July, with the temperature up in the 90's, there have been frequent rains. Every afternoon for the last three days there has been a heavy downpour. But the temperature does not go down with the rain. Falling on the wide sun baked asphalt streets the rain simply rises in steam and the last part of the day is worse than the first.

But out in the country the frequent showers do their perfect work. Corn is growing as a westerner never would believe it could grow in these clay hills of Maryland and Virginia and crops of everything are luxuriant. A few days ago I drove through the historic town of Frederick. "Green walked in by the hills of Maryland," and across the lovely valley in the heart of which it lies, and I cannot recall ever having seen a greener

## An Appraisal of Hoover

In a letter to the Chicago States Herald reviewing the first two years of President Hoover's administration, Mr. E. J. Davis, of the Better Government Association of Chicago, among other things, said:

"President Hoover, more than any other man in this critical time of attempted upheaval of foundations is recreating in the minds of the American people the conviction that a return to the acceptance of the homely virtues and tried economic truths which have undergirded this Republic all the way to its present place are the only trustworthy foundations upon which to carry on into the future."

"The President, like Lincoln, believes in the common sense of the masses of the people and trusts himself in the hands of the people."

## As a Matter of News

Those who endeavor to keep in touch with matters relating to the 18th Amendment will be interested in a recent article in the Christian Century, calling attention to the fact that prohibition repeal bills in some form or other met defeat during the sessions of 1903-11 in the legislatures of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Indiana, Missouri, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, and at the hands of the governor's veto in Illinois. There are some interesting names on that list even the two states that refused to ratify the 18th Amendment are there. In New Jersey also, men prominently supposed the wettest state in the Union, all wet bills and resolutions died in the committee. Reference for the repeal of state prohibition laws were defeated in the legislatures of California, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey,

## Can Prosperity Be Bought?

From a very eminent source there recently has come a proposal that the Government issue bonds and buy prosperity. "Let the Government borrow \$5,000,000,000," runs this proposal, "and expend it upon public works thus giving employment to the idle."

That it may be wise to expand greater sums of money upon needed public works during a period of depression than in a time of full employment is a truism upon which all governments long have acted. It was in pursuance of that policy that President Hoover, at the very beginning of the present depression, suggested to Congress that liberal appropriations be made for public works and urged the Governors of states and private concerns to push construction to whatever extent practicable—with the result that more public work, state and national, is now under way than ever before, perhaps, in the history of the country.

But to push public works with current funds involving no additional taxation and withdrawing no moneys that might be invested in private enterprise is one thing, and to add enormously to the interest-bearing debt of the Nation by borrowing huge sums that must come from private coffers to be expended upon construction that is not an immediate need, is quite another thing.

Aside from the huge increase in the public debt and the heavy burden of taxation that would follow, and aside from the absorption of private funds which can be used to much greater advantage as a matter of relieving unemployment through the activities of private enterprise, (and will be so used when confidence is restored) the plan should not be considered for the reason that it will not accomplish the purpose for which it is designed, namely the immediate relief of unemployment.

Those who propose this plan seem to think that if Congress only provides the money to-day a million men can be put to work to-morrow. But government—Federal, State and municipal—doesn't operate that way. If the "public work" contemplated is in the nature of build: as, then sites must be found, ap-

## Shall Foreigners Write Our Laws?

One of the most astounding confessions ever made by any American statesman was that of Senator Thomas (Dem.) of Oklahoma, who in a public statement recently admitted that while the Smoot-Hawley tariff bill was under consideration he sent copies of it as it passed the House of Representatives to the legislators and embassies of foreign nations inviting criticisms from their countries against the provisions of the bill, and particularly asking how the enactment of the bill would affect those countries. It is the first time in the history of the American Congress that a member of it has deliberately invited foreign attack upon a measure of legislation pending before that body. To ask the criticism of foreigners upon American legislation and then to attack that legislation on the score that foreigners criticized it is certainly a new idea of loyalty.

## Stabilizing Employment

One of the interesting developments of the past few months has been the movement, initiated by the President's Emergency Committee for Employment, on the part of large employers to stimulate and regularize employment. Industrial leaders throughout the country are beginning to accept responsibility for undertaking careful attention to measures which will produce steady employment, realizing that business cannot prosper without consumers with the wherewithal to buy and that it is good business, therefore, to strive to make incomes stable. A considerable number of industries already have discovered that by long time planning they can spread their production over the year in such a way as to provide steady employ-

## That "Indefensible" Tariff

Senator Hatfield, of West Virginia, has recently made public a letter to him from J. M. Wells, General Manager of the Homer-Laughlin China Company, of Newell, West Virginia, a part of which follows:

"Our company is employing at present about 2500 people. I feel I am conservative in stating that at least 25% of our business at present is due to the slight additional duty which we received in the Hawley-Smoot bill. This means that more than 600 of our employees are kept busy at exceptionally good wages who would otherwise be unemployed. We learn that the German manufacturers have only recently put into effect another wage reduction in an attempt to overcome the present situation. This means that their wages are only about one-fourth of ours. We have hopes about even with this difference we can still meet them on the kind of business that is important to us but most certainly we would be in an impossible position under a duty any less than the present one."

That is to say 600 American working men of this one factory are now employed who would be walking the streets if it were not for the Hawley-Smoot act—and yet retail purchasers have not noted any increase in the price of the things they manufacture. And this is only one instance of innumerable others that might be cited. This "indefensible" tariff has maintained employment approximately 50% higher in this country than in the nations of Europe, figured on a pro rata of population basis, and at wages ranging from 200% to 400% higher than are paid abroad.

This "indefensible" tariff along with the activities of the Farm Board, has been instrumental in giving American farmers from 30% to 30% more for their commodities than farmers of other nations have received.



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. July 30, 1931

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—The Census Bureau has just completed a unique survey from which it is believed a fairly accurate estimate of the retail business done in the United States in the year 1929 has been reached. The survey shows that there are 1,540,000 retail stores in the 48 states and the District of Columbia, or 12.6 per thousand inhabitants and that the average store does an annual business of \$32,297. For the entire country this would amount to 53 billion dollars in sales during the year. The average per capita purchases at retail amount to \$407.52, although the sales of retail stores in the several states vary greatly. From a minimum of \$172 per capita in South Carolina to a maximum of \$575 in California and New York. The interesting feature of the report, of course, is the enormous aggregate of retail sales, confirming what has so often been said about the domestic business of the United States affording the greatest market in the world.

During the past few weeks President Hoover has received hundreds of telegrams from the Southwest and West requesting him to declare an embargo on oil imports in order to relieve the situation created by the vast overproduction of oil. These telegrams were sent under an impression that the President is authorized by certain sections of the new tariff law to declare such an embargo on the score that importation of oil under existing conditions is in effect

Before falling in with and falling for the anti-Republican criticism of the Hawley-Smoot tariff law American farmers ought to take note that this law imposes a duty upon everything the farmer has to sell and admits free of duty practically everything the farmer has to buy. Articles and materials used by farmers, such as agricultural implements, cream separators, animals raised for breeding purposes, binding twine—130 articles in the aggregate, all come in free of duty. The bill is in marked contrast with the last Democratic law in which practically all farm products raised in this country were on the free list, thus opening them to unrestricted foreign competition.

## The Hoover Program in Operation

Reports from 344 cities having a population of 25,000 or over show building permits issued in June for structures to cost approximately \$105,444,130. This report does not, of course, include the construction of 115 public buildings in all sections of the country which already have been completed at a cost of \$37,737,362, nor 186 new public projects which have been contracted for to cost \$104,795,366. So in spite of all, some building is being done.

Federal aid highway construction projects in the active stage on June 30, the end of the fiscal year, totaled \$442,000,000 and the program is months ahead of last year according to an official statement. It is believed that at least \$50,000,000 more of construction will be approved this year. The projects under way June 30 cover 19,455 miles of highways as against a corresponding mileage last year of 13,384.

Contract awards for public and semi-public works since December 1, 1930, aggregated \$2,000,000,000 according to an

## Leader Or Medicine Man?

Under our system of government the people naturally and properly look to the President for leadership. He is required by the Constitution to submit at the beginning of each session of Congress a report upon "the state of the Union," and through long custom he is expected also to submit his recommendations as to measures of legislation he believes necessary to promote the common weal. These recommendations become his legislative program and he is expected to use his influence in reasonable and proper ways with the Members of Congress to have this program carried into effect. In times of great national crisis or when sudden emergencies affecting the entire nation arise the President is expected to point out the way in which the crisis may be overcome and the emergencies met.

President Hoover has measured up fully to all the demands for leadership. He has reported to Congress the state of the Union, he has recommended wise and sound measures of legislation, and in view of the fact that at no time has he had a dependable party majority in both Houses of the National Congress he has been extremely successful in carrying his legislative program into effect. When the crisis of a world wide depression came upon the country President Hoover responded immediately by calling into conference leaders of capital, captains of industry, governors of states, heads of bureaus and departments, and through these conferences he was instrumental in preventing universal wage cuts with consequent industrial disturbances, and he stimulated construction of public works, Federal, state and municipal, throughout the entire country with the result of ameliorating to a great degree the unemployment situation.

When the emergency of an unprecedented drought arose, bringing a million people to want, President Hoover met it promptly and efficiently so that without resorting to the dangerous and humiliating dole, the hungry were fed and thousands who had met disaster were rehabilitated and restored to the status of self-respecting, self-supporting citizens. When another emergency arose, this time of world wide importance, when the threatened collapse of Germany

Now that the slump is about over and people are beginning to quit talking hard times it is interesting to remember that Frick started his money making career by buying coke ovens in the slump of 1873. Carnegie made \$300,000,000 by buying steel plants in hard times. Hundreds of fortunes, somebody recently remarked, had been made by optimists who bought from pessimists. In less than 5 years from now there will be thousands of American business men entitled to membership in the "I-wish-I-had club." It is not in good times, but bad times that businesses are bought for 30 cents. The men who go full speed ahead when everybody else is slowing down are the ones who build their houses on Easy street.

## What Short Selling Means

Under existing rules in the grain exchange an operator can sell wheat which he doesn't own, making a contract for its delivery at a future time. It is a perfectly legitimate feature of dealing in grain when it is used legitimately. Millers who have bought quantities of wheat for future delivery, sell an equivalent quantity to protect themselves against a rise in price. That is called "hedging" and nobody criticizes it.

But there are those operating on all the exchanges who are sheer speculators. They sell grain they do not expect to deliver and buy grain they never expect to receive. One of these, for example, may sell a million bushels of wheat at 30 cents a bushel making a contract to deliver it at a future date. If as a result of this heavy sale the price of wheat goes down to 25 cents he buys a contract for a million bushels and turns that in on his former deal, and pockets a neat profit of \$50,000.

It was such transactions as that the President had in mind when he rebuked

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No. 6

## What Europe Faced

Now that President Hoover's proposal for an international debt holiday has been accepted and is in effect the facts which prompted him to suggest this plan have become known and they disclose the imminent peril which confronted, not Germany only, but all Europe.

There is not the least doubt that Germany was upon the verge of complete financial bankruptcy and political anarchy. The best financial authorities state that the German Reichbank was within 48 hours of closing on June 20, when the President made announcement of his proposal. For weeks there had been a continuous withdrawal of foreign credits from that bank and a steady run upon its funds. The shops in Berlin and all the principal cities of Germany had refused to accept German marks in payment for goods and demanded bills of credit or actual cash of other countries. The Reichbank financed all the German industries, and due to the fact that the bank was tottering funds for those industries were withdrawn and scores of them closed, pouring a million and a half wage earners into the streets. The actual closing of the bank would have been a disaster only comparable to the closing of the Bank of England or to the collapse of our Federal Reserve system.

When the German government decreed new taxes in a desperate endeavor to save the bank, the radicals under the leadership of Hitler held meetings throughout Germany, in open defiance of the orders of the Government that such meetings should not be held. The red flag of the Communists was seen in practically every city at public demonstrations which were continuous throughout the day and far into the night. The slogan of the speakers at

The Agricultural Marketing Act was passed by Congress for the purpose of relieving the producers of the country. The plan is essentially sound and it is hoped that it will be approved by the Federal Board of Agriculture, the producer owned and controlled co-operative marketing association, and the marketing commission. It is self-explanatory, especially the Farm Board and its affiliates. The plan is sound and it is hoped that it will be approved by the Federal Board of Agriculture, the producer owned and controlled co-operative marketing association, and the marketing commission. It is self-explanatory, especially the Farm Board and its affiliates. The plan is sound and it is hoped that it will be approved by the Federal Board of Agriculture, the producer owned and controlled co-operative marketing association, and the marketing commission. It is self-explanatory, especially the Farm Board and its affiliates.



# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

I have recently had occasion to make some inquiries as to the progress being made by the United States Employment Service which recently was assigned in the Department of Labor and I discovered some facts that will interest and perhaps will surprise a good many people. The Service has really been in existence only about three months but in that time it has found jobs for 286,000 persons. The head of the Service, appointed by President Hoover, is John R. Alvine, once a vice president of the American Federation of Labor and a man whose whole heart is in this work. Since the day of his appointment, three months ago, he has created an organization reaching into every state, with 80 offices where active men are continually working to bring the man and the job together. There is a state director in every state and the Federal Service is cooperating and dovetailing in with state and local free employment services wherever they exist, functioning as a unified mechanism for the man without a job.

## Significant Resolutions

At the meeting held in Des Moines on July 15th the National Committee of Farm Organizations adopted the following resolution:

"We commend the federal farm board for their courage and integrity in carrying out the provisions of the act in face of the wholesale opposition carried on by the opponents of the co-operative program.  
"The tragically low prices farmers are receiving for their commodities, due to world-wide business depression, has enabled enemies of the marketing act to create suspicion and distrust in this program; the result has been that un-

## Industrial Peace

The fact that throughout this protracted period of depression there have been so few strikes or labor disturbances of any kind as to be almost negligible, in striking contrast with other similar periods when life and bloodshed had occurred all over the country, is doubtless due to two things.

The first is the action of President Hoover at the very beginning of the depression in calling together representatives of labor and capital and securing from them an agreement that on the one hand wages should not be drastically reduced and on the other hand that no demands for increases would be made. These pledges have in the main been kept in absolute good faith and have had much to do with maintaining industrial peace.

Another factor in this critical situation has been the development in the Department of Labor of the policy of conciliation. As Secretary Doak said in a recent address: "The greatest factor for industrial peace is the conference table." The conciliation service of the Department of Labor is always on the job. Whenever any dispute between employer and employees cannot be settled by conference between those immediately concerned, the government's conciliator comes in, learns the grievances of each side and the aims for which each is contending. Then seeks to smooth uneven tempers and to bring about a meeting of minds. As a single illustration of the effectiveness of this method the Secretary reports that in the month of March of this year the good offices of the service were exercised in connection with 50 disputes affecting a total of 48,253 workers. All of these disputes were settled without a strike and without disturbances to business or industry, the general public not even learning that they ever had arisen.

It is certainly gratifying to note the progress that has been made in the maintenance of industrial peace through direct but unobtrusive governmental action.

## Drastic-But Common Sense Wheat Price in Germany

## Never Say Die

They never say die out in Kansas. August 6 was Eastern Kansas Farm Utilization Day at Lawrence and there was the most important joint meeting of farmers and industrialists in the history of the state. Twenty-eight bands and 36 floats appeared in the great parade that was planned and was followed by a picnic. Nationally known speakers were present and stressed a 5-year plan which has been devised by the State Chamber of Commerce for the agricultural and industrial development of eastern Kansas. The day was sponsored by the Kansas Farmers Union, Kansas Farm Bureau, State Grange, Kansas Agricultural College, Kansas State University and Kansas Chamber of Commerce. More than 40 manufacturers and cooperatives arranged an industrial and agricultural exhibit and the crowd that attended was estimated at from twenty to fifty thousand. The spirit that inspired such a demonstration as that will whip any depression that ever lived!

## The Clouds Will Pass

Washington Post: "The clouds will pass, as they have always passed. The Union has not made to perish, but to endure forever. In its time of greatest peril its president was atrociously maligned. The coward, the weakling, and the traitor found ample opportunity to criticize Lincoln. They did their best to hamper and destroy the work of his hands and the purpose of his soul. By steadfastness in the right, as God gave him to see the right, he persevered and saved the Union. Critics of President Hoover are numerous. Tens of thousands of them believe that they could conduct the Government better than he

## The Tariff Issue a Dud

Writing in Current History for July, William Hard, a liberal and a progressive, warns the Democrats that considered as campaign ammunition the tariff issue is a dud.

Mr. Hard declares the idea ridiculous that the tariff should be held responsible in any way for the present business depression. He calls attention to the first place to the fact that the decline in industrial production commenced in May, 1929, more than a year before the Hawley-Smoot act was passed. In the second place he points out that the stock market debacle, which accelerated a depression already under way, occurred in the fall of 1929 many months before the Hawley-Smoot act became a law. Most significant of all, in the third place, Mr. Hard notes that the country's present complaint is not high prices, which the Democrats predicted would ruin the country, but low prices. The only effect of a downward tariff revision at this time, he declares, would be to send them still lower; depression would be intensified, not relieved. If prices are a billion dollars higher now than they would have been if the Hawley-Smoot law had not been passed as the Democrats predicted, would they be willing to revise the law in such a way as to let prices drop a billion dollars more? If the Democrats want to go before the country on that issue next fall, the Republicans certainly will offer no objection.

The National Cash Register Company announces that for the second quarter of 1931 its net profits were \$864,884.30. After all there must be some money actively circulating in the country or cash registers would not be in so much demand as this report indicates they are.

## A Horrible Example

Retail sales amount to about \$200,000,000 per year. During the last year prices have declined about 20 per cent. Do the politicians who blame the tariff for the depression realize that the Hawley-Smoot-Inventy act has cost \$10,000,000,000 from the cost of living?

Washington Post

No. 7



Washington, D. C. August 6, 1931

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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

A resident of Texas, lately returned from an extended trip abroad, writes to a friend in Washington of his own experience in the past 2 years and I wish every American could see how much better we are off than the people in those countries; and if our government is to be a great power, it must be able to do the duty of such men as President Hoover.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. August 13, 1931

No. 8

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like, but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—A report from the Treasury Department as to progress being made in the public building program is of widespread interest because of the influence work upon these projects has upon the problem of unemployment. The report shows that a total of 753 public building projects have been authorized at a cost of approximately \$453,000,000. At the present time 192 of these projects are under contract at an estimated cost of \$135,657,500. In the case of 47 additional projects sites have been acquired and plans completed, and bids for construction have been had. In the case of 40 projects, sites have been acquired and plans are under way. With respect to the remainder of the projects authorized, sites have been had or acquired or are in negotiation. In a number of instances there has been delay owing to local conflicts over sites, impediments in acquiring title, condemnation proceedings, etc. The report from the Treasury Department makes it clear, however, that the program as to public buildings laid out by Congress is being pushed as rapidly as possible.

The Bureau of Census analyzes the population of the United States according to color and race and reports that of the total of 122,755,045 in 1930 there were 108,844,207 whites, 11,113,135 negroes, 1,422,533 Mexicans and 342,307 Indians. The remainder, which is only 2 1/2 of 1% of the total, is composed of Chinese, Japanese, etc.

## One Way Out

"As long ago as 1902," writes a Kansas farmer, "I fed out 320 head of hogs off alfalfa on nothing but soaked wheat and when they were 10 months old they were on the Kansas City market averaging over 300 pounds a hog." A good many wheat belt farmers must have had that experience for newspapers in that section are beginning to express the opinion that the present and prospective low price of wheat will revolutionize the cattle and hog industry and "make the wheat belt another major stock feeding center. Already in the Texas Panhandle many wheat growers, it is said, have successfully fed out cattle on cracked wheat and a small added amount of cake, and the practice seems certain to extend. Newspapers report that hundreds of farmers are putting stock hogs out to feed this winter on wheat, having discovered that wheat is as good as corn as a stock feed and under present conditions can be raised as cheaply. American farmers always find some way to work themselves out of how ever deep a hole.

## The Senator Reverses Himself

Senator Robinson, Democratic leader, has recently given out a statement in which he declares that "probably nothing would be more helpful to the farmer than a serious revision of the present tariff law," and calls upon President Hoover to take the leadership in such a revision. The Senator evidently forgets some very recent history which ought to be fresh in his mind. During the last campaign Governor Al Smith in a speech in Louisville, Kentucky, prompted by the apprehension throughout the country that the election would

## Remedy Worse Than Disease

Speaking recently of the problem of unemployment, Governor Ritchie, of Maryland, is quoted as saying: "This constitutes a challenge to our social order and is the strongest argument for Communism unless solved."

To which a country editor out in Kansas where the air is so clear that men get in the habit of seeing through sophistries, responds:

"This is much like saying that if an ailment fails to yield to treatment by castor oil or porous plasters, this makes an argument in favor of giving the patient a dose of arsenic."

And then the editor goes on to inquire how much of our present trouble is due to an "economic system," or a "social order," and how much of it is due to the abuses of that system and that order by individuals and elements. And that is a very pertinent inquiry, which may well be addressed, not only to Governor Ritchie but to the whole school of revolutionaries and pessimists who want to scrap the Constitution and our whole system of representative government every time there is the slightest jar in the smooth operation of our economic machinery. How do these gentlemen know that it is our economic system or our social order that is at fault? The best automobile in the world can be landed wrong side up in a ditch by an unskilful driver. No economic system, no social order, is proof against over-production, against speculation, against collective folly or individual bad judgment.

## Cause for Pride

Washington Star  
Captious critics, especially those who cannot or will not see good in anything originating under the Hoover trade mark, may be expected to minimize the accomplishments of the past five weeks. They will not succeed in doing so. His-

## Cost of Living

Elmer E. Johnson, life instructor in political economy at the New York Preparatory School and Hedley Institute, has recently published the following interesting figures:  
In 1882, \$11.56 purchased the following list of goods:

## The Storm Center

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the whole tariff fight during the ensuing year will center around agriculture. Critics of the Hawley-Smoot bill have tried to make it appear that it is the industrial rates in this law which interfere with our foreign trade. But so far as there is any interference at all due to the tariff (and the best authorities say it is negligible), informed students of the subject know that it is the high rates carried in this bill on agricultural products that have brought the most insistent complaint from other countries. The Chicago Tribune stated the case very frankly in a recent editorial when it said: "Trade relations with Canada are made difficult because in considerable part the tariff which offends Canada is agricultural. All along the border it closes the market to Canadian produce, dairy products, fruits, grain, stock feed, etc." It will be interesting to see whether critics of the bill, demanding that its "extraneous rates" be reduced, will introduce bills in the coming Congress to lower the duties on agricultural products.

## Not the First or Worst

"We are at present in the midst of a great industrial and commercial depression. Industry is nearly dead, and it will still all over the earth. The consumptive power, or rather the purchasing power of the whole world, has been interfered with, producing not only a derangement but a paralysis, not only stopping further production but preventing the proper distribution of what there is already created; so that we have the anomalous spectacle of

## This Depression and Others

James Truslow Adams, American historian, has been looking up some old records. He finds that in 1837, during a panic precipitated by the passage of a low tariff bill, all banks suspended specie payments. In North Carolina farms could be sold for only 2 per cent of their value. Nine-tenths of all the eastern factories were closed. Unemployment became almost universal. In 1857 all the banks in the country suspended. Mobs paraded the streets of New York with cries of "Bread or Death." Federal troops were called out to guard banks and the subway system from mobs threatening to plunder them. In the crash of 1873 one great financial house after another fell. The stock exchange closed for eight days. Things grew steadily worse for several years. By the close of 1875 railroads had defaulted on 770 millions of bonds. Ships lay at their docks because merchants could not obtain foreign exchange. Some 50,000 commercial firms failed. The maximum of failures occurred in 1878, five years after the panic started. Bloody and destructive riots occurred in all the principal cities. In 1893-407 banks closed in a few months. When it fell to the lowest price ever touched, virtually all the railroads in the country went into the hands of receivers or into bankrupt courts. Federal troops were sent to Chicago to suppress railroad strikes and there were labor riots everywhere. From all which the historian deduces that it is only in comparison with previous years that these are bad now. Compared with other periods of depression what we have been going through the last 30-40 years, indeed, get into a picture at all. The year 1925 was a normal year as we look back upon it now, yet since the common stock this year was 18 points higher than in 1925. The lowest point reached by Pennsylvania Railroad stock this year was higher



# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. August 20, 1931

No. 9

## Notice to Editors:

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—An amusing controversy that has been going on here for several weeks has finally been settled. It arose in connection with the proposed celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Revolutionary victory at Yorktown, which virtually brought the War for Independence to a close. Those in charge of the celebration planned an elaborate historical pageant, the climax of which should be a depiction of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. When this program was announced certain sensitive souls protested that to re-enact this historic scene, representing the commander of the British forces as surrendering his sword to General Washington, would be an affront to the British people, sadly at variance with the "hands across the sea" attitude every good patriot in both countries is trying to cultivate. To the average run-of-mine citizen, who always thinks of the British as good sports, whatever else they may or may not be, and who thinks that 150 years is long enough for old animosities to die, the protest seemed little less than ridiculous. To present a pageant representing the final victory of the Revolutionary forces without showing the climactic scene of that victory would certainly be worse than the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out. The committee to which the controversy was referred ultimately took this view of it and so Cornwallis will surrender at Yorktown again next October.

## Birthday Felicitations

Arthur Brisbane: Monday, President Hoover celebrated his 57th birthday. Everybody in the country wishes him many happy returns, with less back-breaking responsibility and worry, greater appreciation on the part of those to whose services he devotes his time and energy.

Fortunately he is an unusually strong man, as he needs to be, with the load that he inherited from his fortunate predecessor, Calvin Coolidge.

It is one thing to inherit a magnificent structure of prosperity, another to have it tumble around your ears the moment you enter the White House, and by no act of your own. However, President Hoover was brought up in the school of hard knocks. He will find his way out.

## Ancient Lie Still Repeated

In the campaign of 1923 one of the canards diligently circulated was a story to the effect that at the gates of Mr. Hoover's ranch in California a sign was posted reading "No White Men Wanted." The story was promptly "nailed" for the lie it was. But now come reports from several far western states that it has been revived and is again going the rounds. So it seems to be necessary to do some more nailing. Here are two telegrams that state the situation and need no comment:

"L. W. Symmes,

"Hoover Farm,

Wasco, California.

"There has been circulated throughout the country a statement that there is a sign on the gate of the Hoover Farms that no white help is employed STOP Also the claim is made that only Filipinos and Mexicans are employed

## What Are the Issues?

A questionnaire sent to a carefully selected list of 5,000 people by the National Economic League asking them to list the leading political and economic problems now facing the country in the order of their importance, brought curious returns. Prohibition came first, followed by administration of justice, lawlessness, unemployment, crime, world court and taxation. Tariff was far down on the list and the power issue was barely among the also-rans, being fourth in the list, far behind child welfare, reduction of armaments, socialism, international relations and the like. It will be interesting to see what party platforms and candidates can do to shake up this arrangement.

## Concerning Optimism

A favorite indoor sport of certain journalistic critics of President Hoover is to wage shifts of sarcasm at the President on the score that at various times during his administration he has given out statements concerning the business outlook in the country that were more optimistic than subsequent events proved to have been justified. In view of these attacks it is interesting to recall the utterances of other eminent leaders in the financial, industrial and political world.

For example, on the 22nd of November, 1929, Mr. William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in the course of an official statement given out through his own publicity service, said:

"We find now that pessimism is giving way; that faith and confidence is being restored and we all can look forward with renewed hope to an early resumption of increased

which will become marked by next fall."

In a communication dated July 17, 1930, to the heads of departments and subsidiary companies, Mr. Lamont Dupont, president of the Dupont Company, stated:

"Fundamental conditions are sound and it is only a question of months before business activity will be resumed."

On the evening of October 27, 1930, Hon. John J. Raskob, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, delivered an address over the radio, in concluding which he said:

"In closing let me say that no country in the world, not even our own, was ever in as splendid position to go forward and enjoy a period of prosperity as our country is today. Everything has been thoroughly deflated and business is now turning upward. The momentum is necessarily slow at first but within three months with the impetus the automobile industry is sure to provide, starting with the January shows, we will quickly leave depression behind and all be singing 'Happy Days Are Here Again.'"

The foregoing are only a few of innumerable similar statements that might be cited, and they are quoted only to demonstrate that if President Hoover now and then indulged in optimistic forecasts he did not stand alone.

But suppose he had stood alone on the other side of the question. Suppose that while Mr. Raskob and other financial and industrial leaders were giving out their words of cheer the President had uttered counsels of gloom and despair warning the people that worse was yet to come, isn't it entirely certain that the very writers who now criticize him for trying to encourage the people would



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# Republican National Committee

## Weekly Letter

Washington, D. C. August 27, 1931

No. 10

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

### News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

Once more it has been demonstrated that in the presence of a great emergency the Government of the United States can command the highest talent within its borders for voluntary service to the nation. At the call of President Hoover more than sixty men and women, representing every state in the Union, coming from both political parties and from all religious sects and denominations, have been brought together in an organization to cooperate with the public authorities, local, state and national, to meet the situation that is expected to arise this winter, growing out of unemployment in various sections. At the head of this organization is Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telegraph and Telephone Company, president of the charity organization Society of New York and during the war Director of the United States Council of National Defence. Mr. Gifford is very qualified as a man who stands in the very front rank of great executives, head of the greatest corporation in America. He has been again, as he did once before, called to serve his country with no other compensation than the satisfaction of duty performed.

The list of the sixty or more who will serve with Mr. Gifford in an advisory capacity reads almost like a roll call of "Eminent" Americans. There are R. H. Ashton, president of the American Railways Association; Bernard

### Coolidge's Objections

In view of the renewed talk of the equalization fee as a remedy for agricultural ills it may be of interest to recall the grounds upon which President Coolidge twice vetoed that proposal. Here is the summary of his objections:

It would not apply to all agricultural products. It would fix prices, stimulate overproduction, establish bureaucratic government control over economic processes, tax the entire consuming public for the benefit of the agricultural population, encourage profiteering, invite dumping of foreign products in the United States as a retaliatory measure and give American agricultural products to foreign consumers at lower prices than prevailed in the United States.  
Quite a bunch of objections!

### Is Unemployment Exaggerated?

From Pittsburgh, always recognized as a representative industrial center, comes a report that reveals some surprising facts. The report is the result of a house to house survey made by R. L. Polk and Company, well known publishers of directories and commercial statistics, and it shows that 96 per cent of the families of Pittsburgh have a steady income at this time, with an average of 1,218 persons gainfully employed per household. The report further shows that Pittsburgh wage earners have to a large extent liquidated their installment obligations. In a certain zone of the city, rated low in income and buying power, it was found that 58.5 per cent of the families were owing nothing on their installment purchases.

### It Is Up to the People

Do the people of the United States want the next Congress to make greater appropriations than have been made any year since the armistice, appropriations that will involve the issuance of interest bearing bonds and the inevitable increase of Federal taxes?

If they do not—and they certainly do not—then it is up to them to say so now, before the session convenes. The constituents of every Senator and Representative ought to make it clear to these representatives of theirs that the utmost limit of the appropriations at the coming session should be "the needs of the Government, economically administered." It is vastly more effective to have this understanding now, before the session begins, than it is to complain after the session is over.

Of course the Government of the United States can raise the money, no matter how much may be appropriated. As one distinguished advocate of a five billion dollar bond issue recently declared: "The credit of the United States is good." Very true. But a government debt has to be paid the same as any other debt. And the people have to pay it! Let the people never forget that!

It is easy to argue that money lent to the government for dole purposes or for great public works returns immediately to circulation and therefore stimulates the business of the country. But the stimulation is only temporary and superficial. Good times will never return until activity in private business is resumed. And every issue of government securities reduces the supply of money available for investment in industry and therefore delays the restoration of industrial activity. The money that would be available for investment cannot be diverted indefinitely into the Federal treasury without harm to the nation at large. No nation can borrow and tax itself into prosperity.

The people understand this. Let them impress that understanding upon their representatives in Congress.

### Business Beating Back

### The Low Cost of Living

### Relief a Local Problem

Senator Reed, of Pennsylvania, is a Republican, but he is not so much of a Federalist as not to recognize that the individual states have some duties and responsibilities. Protesting against the demand of the Government of this State for a special session of Congress to relieve distress, the Senator said:

"Finding work for people who need it is a local problem. Our neighbors who want work are entitled to our help, not as a charity but in common justice. We cannot shove off the responsibility onto President Hoover. It seems to me that the very self-respect of the individual states is at stake. We must face our own problem, tackle our own tasks, care for our own people and leave Washington to cope with the work that properly belongs to it."

### The Farmers Are Doing It

Do not get the idea that the National Farm Cooperatives are mere government agencies—that the government is engaged in the buying and selling of farm products.

Every nationally organized farmers' marketing association now in existence, of which there are eight, has been organized by the cooperatives themselves and are farmer-owned and farmer-controlled. They have been organized under the agricultural marketing act and approved by the Farm Board because they have complied with the provisions of the law on that subject. The Farm Board has a revolving fund from which it may lend money to those cooperatives and whenever it does it must see to it that the cooperative is so managed as to make the loan a success. During the

### Four Tariff Laws Higher Than This

"There can be little doubt that our recent tariff act, which is the highest tariff ever enacted in our country."

So declared a Democratic Congressman in a recent radio address, and so declare Democratic spokesmen and newsmen continually in face of the fact, officially published by the Tariff Commission, that not less than four tariff laws enacted in the last 40 years have been higher than the Hawley-Smoot law, one of them being the Wilson bill, a Democratic measure. According to the Tariff Commission the average duties collected under the present law calculated upon actual imports up to December, 1930, amount to about 15.3% of the value of all imports free and dutiable. This compares with the average level of the tariff under—  
The McKinley law of 23.0%  
The Wilson law of 20.6%  
The Dingley law of 23.5%  
The Payne-Aldrich law of 19.3%  
The Fordney-McCumber law of 14.0%.

Under the Underwood (Dem.) law of 1913 the amounts were disturbed by war conditions and varied from 6% to 14.5%.

So that of the six tariff laws that immediately preceded the Hawley-Smoot law four were very considerably higher than the present law.

Furthermore the Tariff Commission reports that the new law carries a greater proportion of imports entirely free of duty than any of the preceding six tariff laws with the possible exception of the Underwood law. The proportion of imports free of duty under the Hawley-Smoot law is 69.5%. This compares with the proportions under—  
The McKinley law of 52.4%  
The Wilson law (Dem.) of 49.4%  
The Underwood law of 44.7%.

There is no cure-all for the ills which afflict the United States and the rest of the world. We are battling through a crisis which will not pass until we have met the problems of the future. To only encourage the nation to meet its only enemies that always makes its appearance in this process, but by the work-facts of natural forces and the collective forces of men, we must meet them as we shall recover our economic equilibrium.

—Senator Reed of Pennsylvania.



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C.: September 3, 1931

1126

No. 11

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

The President's Organization on Unemployment Relief, under the direction of Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, already is functioning actively and effectively. This organization does not propose either to collect or to administer funds but will act in an advisory capacity only. Actual raising of money and handling of the funds, Mr. Gifford has made clear, is to be the work of local organizations. The principle of local relief, however, extends further than just in the locality where the funds are raised. It means that the city or smaller community is expected to deal with its relief problems to the limit of its ability; if that is insufficient then the President's organization hopes the county or larger subdivision will lend its aid and after that the state organizations, both public and private, are expected to extend a helping hand. It is the recommendation of the President's Organization that during the period extending from October 10 to November 25 there be a nationwide drive for relief funds, each community raising its own fund in its own way. The President's Organization will help in any way it can to promote these drives, just as it will help in any way it can in any problems that later may arise.

The plan just outlined is probably along the lines of the relief work of just before the war, the Emergency Fund.

## Debts or Armaments?

Before going too far in our thoughts that maybe after all we should forgive our European debtors it is well to take note of just the relation the sums these nations are paying us bear to their total budgets. France's payments to the United States equal 1.24 per cent of her budget, while French armaments call for 21.9 per cent of it. British payments equal 4.2 per cent, armaments 14. Italian payments equal 0.6 per cent, armaments 23.4 per cent. President Hoover was evidently right when he remarked, not in effect, that it is armaments, not debt payments, that are "smothering business."

## Questions and Answers

Into a certain office on a certain day came a certain man. He had met with financial disaster and he was complaining about the Administration. There ensued in substance the following conversation:

Question: What has the Administration done to produce the situation of which you complain?

Answer: It has not done anything to produce it, but it has done nothing to relieve it.

Q: What do you think could have been done that has not been done?

A: Well, I am unable to specify.

Q: What do you think the dissatisfied voters will do about it at the next election?

A: I think they will vote the Democratic ticket.

Q: What have the Democrats promised to do that you think will relieve the situation?

A: Well, I do not know that they have promised anything.

## FACTS ABOUT FOREIGN TRADE

Critics of the Hawley-Smoot tariff bill hold it responsible for the falling off in our foreign trade in 1930 as compared with 1929. That decline amounted, on a valuation basis, to 28.4%. But let us see what was happening to other countries trading this same period. Here are the percentages of decline in the foreign trade of 10 other countries:

Australia	30.6%	France	12.2%
Brazil	36.7%	Germany	16.8%
British India	22.3%	Italy	18.6%
Canada	27.9%	Japan	23.9%
Chile	30.3%	United Kingdom	17.3%

Here are ten countries whose foreign trade on the average declined practically as much as our own. Was the Hawley-Smoot bill responsible for the losses these other countries suffered?

But all the tariff critics, in pointing to the 1930 decrease in our foreign trade quote value figures and ignore entirely the fact that decreases expressed in terms of value may be due to a fall in the price of the goods handled. By way of illustration:

In the matter of crude rubber we imported 58.3% less in value, but only 3.8% less in volume. In the matter of raw silk, 38.5% less in value, but only 15.3% by volume. In the matter of coffee, 30.8% less in value, but actually 7.9% more by volume. In the matter of exports we shipped abroad cotton, unmanufactured, 35.6% less in value but only 12.3% less in volume; wheat 21% less in value but only 3.6% less in volume. Incidentally the decrease in the value of these five commodities alone accounts for almost 25% of the decline in our 1930 foreign trade when compared with 1929 on the basis of value. In other words, the volume of our foreign trade—and that is the only true basis of comparison—has shown a remarkably small decline considering the depression that exists in other countries.

And that is the true reason, of course, for any decline at all—the falling off of purchasing power on the part of our customers. We have suffered only what every other country has felt in greater or less degree. The Hawley-Smoot tariff bill had no more to do with it than it has to do with the turn of the tides. Every informed man knows it, and every intellectually honest man will admit it.

## Business Beating Back

Washington Times (Hearst paper):

Reports from the great national corporations in regard to the first six months' business this year show substantial gains in many instances over the corresponding period last year. Nor

## No Raid On the Treasury

Washington Post:

A wave of sentiment against raiding the Federal Treasury for relief of the unemployed is sweeping over the Nation. State and local agencies are mobilizing their resources and planning to take care of their own needs to avert all possibility of a federal dole. The

## The Murphy Plan

The Muncie Press is responsible for the statement that the Murphy Plan has raised farm income in four Northwestern states by 700 million dollars in eight years. What is the Murphy Plan? To induce farmers to quit growing grain for unprofitable prices; to increase dairy and livestock interest; to have farmers raise food necessary for their own use and quit living out of cans. The plan resulted from studying methods of the two hundred most successful farmers in the region. It seems simple enough.

## Facts Show Fallacies

Those who criticize the present tariff law and demand that the duties it imposes be lowered base their arguments upon two assertions:

First, that to lower duties would stimulate our foreign trade on the theory that if other nations could sell here they would buy here; and

Second, that to lower duties would reduce prices to our own people.

Both of these assertions are pure assumptions which are not borne out by facts.

Business is cold blooded. It does not go by facts. It goes by price list. Men of all nations sell at the best market they can find, and they buy where they can buy cheapest. The place of their buying has little or no relation to the place of their selling. In the fiscal year 1929, for example, British South Africa sold in the United States only 0.6 million dollars worth of goods, but she bought in our markets 68.1 million dollars worth of commodities. The same year we sold to Japan only 250.1 million dollars worth of things but we bought from Japan 431.9 million dollars worth. The fact that South Africa could find

## Eat Surplus Wheat!

They don't raise much wheat out in Arizona. But they evidently know how to use it. Comes the following from the Desert:

Get from your grocer "in bulk" good fat grains of wheat; five pounds at first, but you'll want more soon.

Wash it.

Soak it (hot water hastens)

Cook it.—well

Salt it.

And you have the best cereal ever served on a breakfast table.

Little drops of water.

Little grains of WHEAT.

You wash and soak and boil them.

And then you salt and eat.

O, yes, you've got to chew them!

You chew and chew and chew!

Ha! ha! says doctor Merryface,

"I've begged them that to do!"

And thus our crushing surplus

Disposed man's needs to meet;

With little drops of water,

And little grains of wheat.

—Kate T. Cory.

## Tammany and Crime

Federal Judge Richard Hopkins, after holding court for six weeks in New York City, declared from the bench that crime is more rampant here than in any other city within the United States. Within a few days after he made that utterance the truth of it was emphasized by a street raid in which six persons were killed. This outrage aroused public sentiment to such an extent that a mass meeting was held in Madison Square Garden attended by 20,000 citizens to protest against existing conditions and demand enforcement of the law. The chairman of the meeting was Bainbridge Coby and in his opening address he deplored the most serious robbery of the

It is the purpose of the Weekly Letter to carry to those who receive it the news of the political issues that probably will be dominant in the next campaign. It is not intended to be a general interest use can be made of it by those to whom it comes will clip such articles as they desire and paste them in the clipper in properly indexed envelopes, "Foreign," "Farm," "Finance," "Labor," "Education," etc. In this way the campaign material in this issue will be made available in rapidly increasing quantities.



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

It is the purpose of the Weekly Letter to furnish information, facts and argument hereon, upon the political issues that are before the country. It is suggested that the largest use can be made of it if those who receive it are to be kept posted on the situation in properly labeled columns: "President," "Hoover," "the like." In this way the campaign material is rapidly increasing quantity.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C., September 10, 1931

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No. 12

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—Under instructions from President Hoover the Bureau of Immigration has functioned with unusual alertness and effectiveness during the past two years, and particularly during the current year, with the result that a new high mark has been set for deportation of aliens during the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1931. The total of such deportations during this year amounted to 18,142. Among these were included 1,773 criminal aliens, the remainder of the 18,000 being returned to their native shores by reason of inadequate visas, because of having overstayed their time and because of being likely to become public charges, and for other reasons. The immigration service is as zealous in trying to prevent undesirable aliens coming into the country as in deporting those not entitled to remain. The Bureau of Immigration has dealt during the year with thirty-nine separate races of people.

The latest appropriation of the flexible provisions in the new tariff law and the manner in which they are being administered by the Tariff Commission comes from a wage conference held this week by manufacturers and workers representing the hand blown bottle industry, which went on record as giving its wholehearted support not only to the work done by the Tariff Commission but also to the principle of the protective tariff for American industries and Amer-

## Remedies for Depression

Months ago the League of Nations appointed what was designated as an Economic Co-ordinating Committee, presumably made up of men of uncommon ability, and commissioned it to study the causes of the world's economic distress and recommend a remedy. The committee now reports that it can think of no other or better remedy than to call upon the public men of every country to spread throughout the world "a general feeling of confidence." What a lame and impotent conclusion that must seem to the hundreds, probably thousands, of free-born American citizens who are writing to the President of the United States every day telling him exactly what he should do to bring prosperity back again!

## History Repeats Itself

It sometimes helps us to bear the ills we have by recalling others which were as bad or worse and from which in due time we recovered. So it may be worth while to turn to the records of ten years ago and see what was happening then. In the fall of 1920, under the Wilson administration, business suffered a collapse and there was heavy unemployment which continued and grew worse through the winter and the following spring and summer. President Harding recognized the situation by calling an unemployment conference in September, 1921, appointing the then Secretary of Commerce, now President Hoover, to preside. The conference was in session two weeks and an examination of its findings shows that members differed but little in their views of what ought to be done from students of the same problem today. The principal emergency measures proposed were that manufacturers should put their employees on

## The Dole a Dead Issue

The response of the Governors of the various States to the President's plan for meeting the problem that will be presented to the country next winter by unemployment, together with the willing acceptance of men of the highest standing throughout the country in response to the call for public service in the face of public need, is rapidly making a dead issue out of the dole. The response of upstanding Americanism to the President's rallying call has been magnificent. Specially significant is the action of Governor Roosevelt in calling his legislature in special session and asking an appropriation of \$20,000,000 to enable the State of New York to meet its obligations and its duties, submitting his proposal in a message which declares that it is the primary responsibility of the State to meet the need of its own people. In taking this position the Governor of the Empire State, along with a number of other Governors, arrays himself behind President Hoover in uncompromising war against the dole, in striking contrast with the attitude of some other would-be political leaders who seem to feel justified in placing themselves in opposition to any plan the President sponsors, no matter how sound and patriotic it may be. The Governors of other States have shown an equally fine spirit with the Governor of New York and it is to be hoped and expected that their example will be generally followed. The last thing any wise and patriotic American should wish to see would be the various States of the Union pleading poverty or shirking duty in the presence of a great crisis. There is growing and gratifying evidence that the distress throughout the country during the coming winter will not be so widespread as some have tried to make it appear. But whatever the need may be it will be met by the local communities and the States in the spirit of true American pride and independence.

## Business Beating Back

## Federal Building Program

Conditions throughout the country are not half as bad as they have been pointed out by Gen. George Sabin Gibbs, former

## The Canadian Tariff

As long ago as 1930 the Tariff Commission compiled figures showing that Canada was collecting a larger percentage of the value of imports from the United States before our new tariff law was passed than we would collect under the increased rate of our new law. And yet critics of our law continue to insist that Canada raised her tariff in "retaliation" for our unneighborly attitude. It would be just as near the truth to declare that the rates in the Hawley-Smoot law were retaliatory toward Canada. The truth is of course that Canada raised her tariff rates for the same reason we raised ours—for the purpose of protecting her own markets and to put her own people to work.

## At His Best

Boston Post (Dem.): The message from Herbert Hoover, President of the United States, and therefore for all the boys and girls within it, which was read to the youngsters of the country in connection with the 25th anniversary of the National Recreation Association, shows the Executive at his very best. That best is when he is talking to the children.

As a part of the great celebration that message was distributed to our thousands of small people on the 40 playgrounds of Boston as a part of the daily program of activities. It read as follows:

THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON.

To the Boys and Girls of America: Two and a half million of you are playing today in the playgrounds of nearly a thousand cities. Your elders rejoice with you in your fun and frolics, your sports and games and all that goes into making you

## Truth About Wages

Propaganda, political in motive, of course, is being spread broadcast to make it appear that wages are being reduced drastically and universally in spite of President Hoover's repeated insistence that they be maintained. Refuting such statements President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor, says: "Despite the seventy of the crisis, wage cuts have been confined to smaller companies or the mismanaged industries. During the first twelve months of 1930 the number of firms reporting wage cuts per 100 firms reporting wage increases was 6.7 per cent. for the first six months of 1931, 9.9 per cent. This amounts to 16.6 per cent for the eighteen months. Contrast this to 92.7 per cent for 1921."

The comparison made in the last two sentences of this paragraph is striking and significant. Under Republican administration a wage reduction of 16.6 per cent. Under a Democratic administration a reduction of 92.7 per cent. Who can doubt that the difference is due to the fact that in one case the President directly and personally appealed to employers to maintain wages wherever possible, and that in the other case the President made no such effort?

The truth is that wages have not been so much reduced during the past eighteen months as they have been reduced. The cut in wages represents in most cases no more than the reduction of the cost of living—in most cases not so much—so that real wages, as represented by purchasing power, have suffered little if any diminution. When it is asked what the President has done for labor in this crisis let these facts be the answer.

## A Bill of Rights

That in effect is what the farm mar-



—William Randolph Hearst.



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

There does exist foolish timidity among lenders, and harmful hoarding among citizens, that business is improving. The country is 100 per cent solvent, with credit unlimited, and more than \$2,000,000,000 in gold accumulated. When the people want their money they can get it, and when they want them, they can have them.  
—Arthur Brisbane.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. September 24, 1931

10

No. 14

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

It has remained for the head of one of the biggest of big businesses to bring forward the most radical plan for the readjustment of industry in this country to avert the recurrence of such conditions as now exist that has yet been presented. The author of the plan is Gerard Swope, President of the General Electric Company, of which Owen D. Young is Chairman of the Board. Before a meeting of the National Electric Manufacturers Association, Mr. Swope proposed for the protection of industrial workers the compulsory adoption of life and disability insurance and pension system for retirement at 70 on half pay, and unemployment insurance, the cost of each of these to be shared equally between employer and employee. "For the stabilization of industry," Mr. Swope proposed the organization of all the industries of the country into trade associations, these including all companies engaged in inter-state commerce and employing as many as fifty persons. In such organizations there should be represented equally labor, employers and the government, and the association organized for each trade should control production in each individual industry engaged in that trade.

If a plan so radical as that had been

## "Watch Hoover"

Topeka Capital: "We have in the White House now," observes the Arkansas City Traveler, "a President who the Traveler believes has endeavored sincerely and fairly to represent all sections of the country. In doing so he has pleased none." All sections are hard to please when the whole world is in almost unparalleled distress. But just the same, watch Hoover. He isn't through yet. Nobody has worked and thought harder. He takes no holidays. He has great abilities. No man has shown more and no man could have shown those who make only one demand, and that is Good Times in bad times.

## How About England?

"Let Congress promptly remove the obstacles to foreign trade, and keep the American flag flying high in world markets."  
Thus shouts a journalistic critic of the Hawley-Smoot bill, demanding, with all the emphasis of double column and bold face type, that Congress immediately be called in special session for the revision downward of the rates in the bill. In order that by offering other countries a better market here for their goods we may be able to sell more of our own products abroad.  
Let us test the efficacy of that plan by the experience of Great Britain. From London within the past few days comes the statement that during the first eight months of this year Britain's imports were valued at \$7,700,000,000, whereas her exports were barely \$1,500,000,000, leaving an adverse balance of trade of \$1,200,000,000.  
Now Britain is on a free trade basis. Certainly it cannot be claimed that her difficulty in selling abroad is due to

## The President Is the Leader

In a statement recently given to the press, State Senator Hofstadter, of New York, calls Governor Roosevelt sharply to account for intimations in his message to the legislature and in public speeches that the necessity of action on the part of the State of New York for the relief of the unemployed is due to delay or failure on the part of the National Administration to carry its proper share of the burden of relief. "Such criticism," declared the Senator, "is both unjust and ungenerous. The truth is," the Senator continued, "the program offered by Gov. Roosevelt is substantially in conformity with the formula of our President."

Senator Hofstadter's statement is wholly borne out by the records. For the past two years the President of the United States has steadfastly maintained that the very essence of self-government requires that the local community and the State should assume their full responsibilities in the matter of affording relief for their citizens. But he has not failed to afford the communities and the States the powerful cooperation of the Federal government, not only by wide-spread utilization of the Federal appropriations made by Congress for public works but perhaps even more through his personal effort and influence. It was upon the President's initiative that as long ago as November, 1929, a committee of leading employers and business men was formed to organize the "staggering" of work so as to give employment and income to the greatest possible number of workers. It is estimated that 2,000,000 workers are receiving today part-income which they would have been without had staffs been cut in accordance with the usual practice in previous depressions, and as they doubtless would have been now but for the intervention of the President. This committee also persuaded the utilities, the railroads and other important industries to undertake increased construction work, instead of following the usual depression practice of shutting down such work, and it is estimated that the programs executed in excess of normal growth requirements have exceeded \$1,000,000,000. The greater part of this huge sum was paid to labor, and again to the President should go the credit. In like manner, through the direct intervention of the President, public authorities all over the country have expanded State and municipal public work, affording employment to many thousand men in excess of the normal thus employed.

While thus stimulating construction expenditures on the part of private employers and local authorities, the President has

## Praise Instead of Blame

Gov. Cnfield of Missouri: "President Hoover, with his magnificent training and equipment, is working night and day, wearing himself out in our service. Recommending the universal similarity of interests, the President was prompted to propose a moratorium in the international debts for the benefit of Germany. He recognized that such a movement was desirable not only from the standpoint of international friendship and common humanity, but that to prevent this financial collapse of Germany was necessary to help preserve the business fabric of the entire world. It would seem that instead of blaming our president for the consequences which have followed every great war, he should be praised by the American people that in a world of unemployment and business disaster, our country stands pre-eminent as the most prosperous of all."

## Sayings of Poor Richard, Jr.

As Reported by Victor Rosencraster  
When one country findeth ready sale for its bonds at an interest rate far below that required to float the securities of any other nation on earth, it is best that it should to heart the significance thereof.  
Uneasy lieth the head which is covered by the Dictator's hat.  
The luxuries of yesterday are become the commonplaces of today, as Poor Richard would proclaim, could he witness our streets blockaded by motor cars of high and low decree.  
It seemeth that Peace hath her burdens made heavy by the ravages of war. Mark how confounded in their tents are

## These Boys Got Jobs

Here's a story from Iowa: Two sons of a Methodist minister came home from college. Their father told them he would not be able to supply all the money they would need to continue their college work, and since there were so many unemployed he feared they would have to drop out for a year. They said all right, but they would look around. As a result of looking around they got jobs in a big poultry house, one at \$150 and the other at \$200 a month. Their father was so much surprised that he went to the poultry man to inquire about it, and the man told him he could employ a dozen men if they were like his boys, able to do the work and didn't have to be watched all the time.

And here's a story from Kansas: Again two brothers, half way through college, asked their father if he could get them jobs in the harvest field. He told them there would be more men than jobs and wages would be low. The next he heard from them they were driving tractors in a western Kansas wheat field. The work lasted five weeks and paid them \$3.00 a day and board. That job finished they bought a Ford for \$20.00, drove to Granby, Colorado, where they went to work in the lettuce fields the day they arrived at 50 cents an hour. They are there yet, at 50 cents an hour. They will be back in college when the term starts.

The man who sent in those two stories is a Federal employment agent stationed at Grand Forks, N. D. By way of comment on this story of the boys he said: "The moral seems to be that there are jobs if one is looking for a job that there are opportunities that are gilded if one is looking for an opportunity, that success is here for those who will grab hold and hang on and believe in themselves and in the future of their country, that there is room here if one wants room, that this is a land of fo-



X-JK 2352

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. October 1, 1931

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

*(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)*

The President's address before the Legion convention last week has been commented upon with universal approval by the press of the country. "Not only is the speech itself praised for its literary, argumentative and statesmanlike qualities, but the sacrifice of personal comfort made by the President in undertaking the long and tiresome journey to Detroit and his political courage in running the risk of offending an organization of a million voters by announcing a position on a question that was contrary to the selfish interests of these voters, have been warmly praised even by opposition newspapers. An ordinary politician in the President's place would have followed the safe and easy course. He would have remained comfortably in the White House and wired his felicitations in a conventional way to the convention; or if he did so in person he would have made the conventional speech, praising the heroism of the soldiers before him and waving the flag. But Mr. Hoover is not an ordinary politician. He is a patriot with a sense of his responsibility to the country and a determination to discharge that responsibility at whatever cost to himself that has never been surpassed by any occupant of the White House. As one metropolitan newspaper that has not always been friendly to him remarked in its editorial comments upon his Detroit speech: "No matter what burdens the American people will never on any fair basis have reason to be ashamed

## A Free Press

President Hoover: "The most obvious thing in democracy is that it can not function except when accompanied by a free and constructive press. Our government is and must be responsive to the will of the people expressed through considered public opinion. That expression is more guided and revealed through the press than any other agency, but it implies great responsibility in the press that the news shall be accurately presented without bias or color and that the public may have an opportunity of formulating its views on the actual facts and that its expressed opinion shall be based upon considered and constructive editorial suggestions. Any newspaper, great or small, that accurately disseminates information aids in the promotion of good government and in the sound development of the nation."

## It Is Up to the People

In a statement given out from the White House, President Hoover makes the action of the American Legion in refusing to impose further demands upon the Treasury at this time the occasion for an appeal to all the people to assist the Administration in holding down the appropriations of the next Congress to the minimum needs of the government. Calling attention to the fact, well known in governmental circles, that the heaviest demands upon the Treasury always come from the voluntary associations outside of Congress, representing group interests, sectional interests, business interests, activity, the President stated that 271 bills were introduced into the last Congress asking for increased Federal expenditures. After eliminating

## Growth of Cooperatives

For more than a generation coöperativists have called attention to the wide spread between what the farmer receives for his product and what he consumes in his daily life. Farmers have taken note of this and have been loud in their complaints against the middlemen, contending that the profits of a crop go to the men who buy and sell it rather than to those who produce it. It is precisely to meet that complaint that provision was written into the Farm Marketing Act for the encouragement of coöperative marketing organizations. The Farm Board has been so active and aggressive in carrying these provisions into effect that there are now 11,500 local farm coöperatives and 500 regional coöperatives which coordinate with the local organizations to market produce over a large territory. There has been a 33% growth in membership of these larger organizations since the establishment of the Farm Board. Evidence which would seem to be conclusive that the farmers have found it to their interest to take advantage of the facilities such organizations offer. It is no doubt because they see in the work of the Farm Board, along these lines, the opportunity so long covered of reaching the ultimate consumer with the least possible expenditure, that the farm organizations almost unanimously are giving the Farm Board their steady support.

## The President Thought of It

A labor leader has lately put forth the suggestion that in a time of depression, when full time work cannot be afforded in a given industry, it is up to the managers of that industry to distribute the work that can be done equi-

## The Thirty-two Club

One of the unique and interesting political movements of the year has been the organization of the "Thirty-two Club" (Hoover for President in Ninety-two Thirty-two). The movement started among the President's friends in his home state of California and its primary objective is the enrollment of men and women who believe in Herbert Hoover and his Administration and want him re-elected in thirty-two. The method pursued in California was to limit each organization to thirty-two members. Usually a single individual went among his friends and secured their signatures to the number of thirty-two, and the job was done. In this way the movement spread from ward to ward in cities, from neighborhood to neighborhood in the rural districts, until hundreds of such groups were enrolled in the state. In the county of Los Angeles alone there are now more than 8,000 members. A membership fee of \$1 is collected and the entire amount is sent to the Republican National Committee as a contribution to the campaign fund.

The movement proved to be so popular in California that it is now to be extended throughout the country. Friends of the President have established national headquarters in Westtown, Pennsylvania and hope to extend the organization into every state. Anyone interested in forming a thirty-two club may obtain the necessary information by simply addressing a letter "Thirty-two Club, Westtown, Pennsylvania."

This movement presents a simple and effective way for any supporter of Herbert Hoover to render the President direct personal service by organizing a Thirty-two Club. In nearly any neighborhood this can be done with a few hours work. This method has the possibility, not only of bringing support to the Administration but of fixing the public mind upon sounder principles of government.

Reading over the President's speech to the American Legion convention on Monday, we were impressed again with the fact that no matter what happens, the American people will never, on any fair basis, have reason to be ashamed of their government. He is not a good politician and he is not a good statesman personally, but he has brains and courage and his motives are always high.  
Cincinnati Times-Star.



X-JK 2352

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

"Be courageous! I have lived a long time. I have seen history repeat itself again and again. I have seen many dynasties rise and fall. Always America has emerged from them stronger and more prosperous. Be as brave as your fathers were before you. Have faith, go forward."  
—Thomas A. Edison

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. October 8, 1931

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No. 16

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—The sensation of the week in political circles has been the article by former President Calvin Coolidge in the Saturday Evening Post of October 3 on the subject of "Party loyalty and the President." No one who knows the ex-President ever believed for a moment that he would be a candidate against Mr. Hoover, either voluntarily or as a "drafted" man. But this article takes him definitely and finally out of the picture. "For a former President to attempt to secure a nomination against a President of his own party," he declares, "would arouse animosities and create bitterness which would afflict the people for years to come. When we need more harmony, more cooperation and more confidence it would be a distinct disservice to promote a factional conflict against a President in office."

But Mr. Coolidge does not content himself with removing all doubt of the possibility of his own candidacy. He pleads with the clearness and force characteristic of his utterances for "more party solidarity, not less, more self-sacrificing party loyalty and less personal political selfishness." And he pays his respects very bluntly to the people who make the statement that they have no confidence in the government or in certain public officials. "There is little excuse for such an attitude," he declares, "it is our business to have confidence in our government and in our public officers. We made it. We elected them. They both represent us. To disown them is about the same thing as to, etc."

## It Has Been Worse

Omaha World-Herald (Dem.). Most people in this country are still riding in automobiles, attending the movies, taking vacations, eating regularly and waiting succinctly pretty. Most of us are functioning pretty close to normal—or should be. Let's help the fellow who is down if we can—and a lot of us can—let's do all those things we ought to do, but let us also frankly admit, if such be the case, that we aren't half bad off. This is not the first depression the world has seen nor will it be the last.

## Senator Fletcher's Sound Sense

An address delivered early in August over a broadcasting system by Senator Duncan U. Fletcher of Florida has not received the publicity to which its merits as a statesmanlike document entitle it. Senator Fletcher is a Democrat, but he was talking with obvious respect for his reputation as a statesman and so his address had little partisanship and much sound sense.

The Senator did not once charge President Hoover or the Republican party with responsibility for the depression. On the contrary he admitted that the economic difficulties are world wide and are due partly to reaction from the World War, but chiefly to individual spending habits, to personal extravagance and to selfishness. More profits, abundant money circulating freely, high wages and salaries and expanded credit, he declared, led us all away from economy and thrift which are essential to individual and national prosperity. The Senator recalled the experience of Florida in 1925 when the whole state was hectic with wild speculations in real estate. The gambling spirit, he said,

## The Wisdom of Calvin Coolidge

(From an article in the Saturday Evening Post of October 3)  
"It is important at all times that nothing be done to break down the authority of the Presidential office, but in times like these the duty to support the Executive comes very close to the duty to support the law. In the last analysis the strength of the Government is approximately the strength of the Presidential office."

"A party which temporizes which compromises itself, which surrenders to opportunism, which deserts its leaders, even if it wins a temporary victory, will find little but discredit in its success, and generally will disintegrate and disappear. When popular fallacies abound all the more reason exists for standing firm."

"It has long been the practice to give a President in office a second nomination. It is a practice that has been beneficial to the country. Any other course is open to grave objections and in danger of being attended by serious consequences. The great safeguards of order and precedent, of respect for public office, of obedience to duly constituted authority ought not to be weakened. In an emergency like the present, the responsible elements of our party should offer a solid front in their support of the President. That is the course I propose to pursue."

## Business Beating Back

Life insurance protection in the United States, despite business conditions which caused fears of a decrease in the total amount represented by outstanding policies, was increased by over \$1,000,000,000 during the first half of the year, according to the report of a survey by the Association of Life Insurance Presidents received in the Department of Commerce, September 30.

Philadelphia, Pa.: Sentiment among business men in Philadelphia and the surrounding territory is better than for several months. Manufacturers of consumer goods in the Philadelphia area report a definite increase in output in

## President Hoover at 57

Kansas City Times: "President Hoover," says the Associated Press dispatch telling of his fifty-seventh birthday "entered his fifty-eighth year today, burdened by international and domestic problems." The sentence tells a significant story. If there had not been the burden of foreign and domestic problems, if times had been normal, the President would have been acclaimed for what he is—a high-minded, practical idealist, deeply and effectively concerned with improving conditions at home and abroad.

## The Dole Burden

Indianapolis Star: The farmers and dwellers in the small towns and villages are awaking to the menace of the 'dole' before it is too late. The census figures show that about 45 per cent of the people of the United States are rural; that is, they live on farms or in towns of less than 2,500 people. They pay their full 45 per cent of the taxes of the country, and probably more, but they will get nothing out of a 'dole' program under whatever guise that might be offered.

## No Dole in Other Days

In 1893-94-95 we had more people out of work in this country in proportion to the number employed in industry than we have today. Yet no one proposed a dole nor was there even any suggestion that the government should spend more money on public works. Grover Cleveland was President then, and he was so far from admitting the responsibility of the Federal Government for individual relief that he vetoed a bill that had been passed by Congress providing a loan to certain citizens of Texas who had suffered from a severe drought. In sending in that veto he took occasion to remind the Congress and the country that "it is the business of the people to support the government, not of the government to support the people."

Again in the winter of 1913-1914 there were long bread lines in every city, 350,000 unemployed men reported in Chicago alone. In 1920-1921, according to Samuel Gompers, there were 3,000,000 men out of employment. A Democratic administration was in power both these hard winters, but the Democratic leaders who are so vociferous now in demanding federal relief hadn't a word

## The Distribution of Wealth

It is just as well not to become too much alarmed or to lose confidence in American institutions because some one declares that "ten per cent of the people of the United States own 90 per cent of the nation's wealth."

Such percentages are admittedly based on the census showing a total population of approximately 120,000,000, each individual of whom is counted in these pessimistic utterances as at least a potential property owner. And therein lies the fallacy. The census of 1920 shows that 40 per cent of the total population were 19 years of age and younger. That 40 per cent should be eliminated at once for children are not presumed to own property. Furthermore the census shows that 38.4 per cent of the total population, including women, are embraced in the age period from 40 to 44, a time in which those who gain wealth are merely getting started. The census says that 20.8 per cent of the population are aged 45 and over. It is this age class that holds the great bulk of the wealth of the country, and even from this class should be deducted a large number of women who while enjoying the use of property do not personally own it because it is carried in the name of their husbands or other male members of their families.

It will readily be seen that any argument based upon the presumption that women and children should be expected to own their per capita share of the nation's wealth is necessarily fallacious and does not present a true picture of the actual situation. One thing everybody knows is that the wealth of America is more equally distributed than is the wealth of any other great nation. Another thing everybody knows is that it is easier to rise from poverty to wealth in this country than in any other in the world. A pretty good country after all these



# 132 Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. October 15, 1931

### News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like, but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news item it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—In a single day last week news "broke" in three of the great capitals of the world, any item of which it had happened alone would have been good for a world sensation. In Germany the Brüning Cabinet fell and pending the organization of a new one President Hindenburg issued a long series of emergency decrees which gave his government far reaching powers in dealing with the nation's financial and economic burden and in thwarting the attempts of the opposition parties to make Germany fascist or communist. In London the parliament was dissolved and the nation swung into an intensive three weeks campaign for a general election the result of which will determine whether Ramsay MacDonald, with the support of liberals and conservatives, would be returned to power, or whether Great Britain will pass into the hands of the Labor party, now more than ever inclined toward red socialism. In Washington, President Hoover submitted to a group of Members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans, a far reaching plan for the rehabilitation of American business through the restoration of confidence in American banks.

The most interesting feature of the Berlin situation is the revelation of the dictatorial powers conferred by the Constitution of the German Republic upon the President when he has reason to believe an emergency exists which warrants him in suspending them. The de-

### A Page in History

At this time of the year in 1863 President Lincoln could not have been elected—probably not nominated. As late as August 23, 1864, Lincoln wrote that his opponent, George McClellan, was a "man of peace" and that his administration would not be re-elected. At that time Sumner, Wade, Chase, Fremont and Wilson—five of the strongest leaders in the party—had called a convention at Buffalo to support him. But within ninety days the common sense of the American people had re-assured itself and Lincoln was given 212 of the 233 electoral votes of the nation. The people frequently do a lot of serious thinking during the last three months of a campaign.

### The Words of a Fighter

Montevideo (Minn.) News: "The experts tell us the President lacks fire, makes no appeal to the public imagination. But it had seemed to us that the direct man-to-man, veteran-to-veteran, talk he made to the American Legion at Detroit was one of the most stirring things in the public life of this country since the days of the great war when President Wilson was able to express the aspirations of a unified people. President Hoover has no unified people behind him, as did the war President."

Let's give this man Hoover his due. He has the courage to be something of an idealist and the nerve to ask a discouraged, and slowly cynical, people to follow those ideals with him. In his own words: "Some people may have lost their nerve, but the real American people are digging themselves out with industry and courage." And again, "The first stone in the foundations of stability and recovery both at home and in

### Is Not This Leadership?

The fact that he holds the highest office in the Nation does not exempt the President from criticism. In the case of President Hoover, as in the case of all other Presidents, it is expected that those who differ with his policies will say so. Criticism of that sort can be understood. But from many directions ever since our economic troubles began there have come complaints that the President has done nothing about it, that he has failed in the leadership the people have a right to expect in such a crisis—and that complaint is hard to understand.

Consider:  
For the first time in history the Federal Government, under the initiative of President Hoover, has taken an extensive and positive part in mitigating the effect of depression and expediting recovery.

Through measures taken upon the initiative of the President the country was assured from panic and its hurricane of bankruptcy by coordinated action between the Treasury, the Federal Reserve System, the banks, the Farm Loan and Farm Board System.

The President has steadily urged the maintenance of wages and salaries and the preservation of the American standards of living.

Through the President's insistence the Government has maintained a steady expansion of ultimately needed construction work in cooperation with the States, municipalities and industries.

Under the President's direction immigration has been rigidly excluded so as to preserve our own work for our own people.

It was the President who went before the Legion convention at Detroit and made an appeal to the patriotism of that body so direct and manly and convincing that the convention voted to support his policy against the personal interests of its own members.

It was the President who outlined a plan for the relief of the unemployed throughout the nation for the coming winter so obviously sound that the most eminent business men in the country, Democrats as well as Republicans, gave it their approval and are helping to carry it into effect.

Are not all these things the signs and tokens and acts of LEADERSHIP? If they are not, then leadership has never been exhibited by any American President.

### One Man Against Seven

A Washington newspaper correspondent made a shrewd observation the other day when he remarked that the opposition to President Hoover in this country today is greater than it probably will be when the Democratic candidate for President in 1932 has been nominated. Right now Mr. Hoover is running against a whole field of Democratic candidates. He is running against Mr. Baker and Mr. Young and Gov. Ritchie and Al. Smith and Gov. Roosevelt, not to mention Gov. Murray and Jim Reed. After the nomination is made he will be running against only one of them. All the friends of all these candidates are against Hoover now, but it is by no means certain that all of them will be against him when six groups of them have been disappointed by the failure of their friend to be nominated.

### A Call to the Press

Chicago Tribune: "The American press is free to lead and competent to lead. Its call is unmistakable. The misfortunes and sufferings of millions of our people are making rich pasture for the demagogue and the quick doctor of human ills. The economic dope vender is abroad with his wares. Political curials are multiplying on the counter. Sane counsel and vigorous leadership are sorely needed, and plainly it must come from the responsible press of the country. The press has been the stay of the nation in other trials of our people. It can be and will be in the order of today. To combat discouragement and panic, to clarify thought and stimulate initiative, to support wise counsel and explode destructive fallacies, this is the work before us and the American press must take it up with a will. The domestic

### The Chorus of Acclaim

Leaders in Business and Politics Praise the President's Plan

Alfred E. Smith, Democratic candidate for President in 1928: "Undoubtedly President Hoover's plan to aid the banks and the Federal Farm Loan System is helpful in this crisis."

William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor: "The program is a constructive step. It will have a profound and helpful effect."

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., President of the General Motors Corporation: "I am convinced that the plan of the President is highly constructive. It will mobilize our financial resources and enable them to be used where they will do the most good."

Samuel McRoberts, chairman, Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Co.: "It will do much toward revival of confidence and stability. It is workable and need not entail losses upon any individual or institution."

Harry C. Knight, President of the New England Council: "President Hoover's plan will go far in increasing confidence in the financial integrity of America and undoubtedly will have a far-reaching and beneficial effect on world affairs."

Charles F. Mott, banker and vice president of General Motors Corporation: "The country is to be congratulated that President Hoover has seen fit to make this proposal. I believe it is thoroughly practical and will furnish much relief in our present situation."

Edwin R. Seligman, professor of Economics at Columbia University: "The action taken by President Hoover is wholly admirable."

Fred W. Sargent, president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad: "Mr. Hoover's plan is very constructive. I expect it to prove beneficial to industry all over the country."

Political parties are successful so long as they represent the abiding convictions of the people. One of the best measures of their ability to govern the country is their ability to govern the national press. The press should be chosen with deliberation, but when they have been chosen they should be permitted to lead. A party which alien itself over to factional controversy instead of public service cannot command the confidence of the country. —Calvin Coolidge.



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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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We do not claim our system of government or economy, our public officers or business managers are perfect, but they are what the people have made them and they have produced more liberty, security and prosperity, and offered a safer refuge from adversity than ever before was had by any nation.

—John Coolidge.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C. October 22, 1931

No. 18

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like, but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—The United States Daily is a Washington newspaper published for no other purpose than to present the official news of the Federal government and each of the governments of the forty-eight states. Regularly every day it tells what the President did the day before. And here is an average day's program:

- 9:30 A. M.—Henry P. Fletcher, chairman of the United States Tariff Commission, called to discuss tariff matters.
- 10 A. M.—James C. Moreland, alderman of Chicago, called to present a resolution adopted by the City Council of Chicago urging the calling of a special session of Congress for modification of the Volstead Act, permitting manufacture of light wines and beer.
- 11 A. M.—George Davidson, of New York, president of the Central Hanover Bank & Trust Company, called. Subject of conference not announced.
- 11:15 A. M.—Representative Sinding (Dem.), of Ruston, La., called to discuss drought loans.
- 11:30 A. M.—Harvey C. Couch, of Little Rock, Ark., identified with power and railroad interests, and L. W. Baldwin, president of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, called to discuss the railroad situation.
- 11:45 A. M.—H. L. Derby, of New York, chairman of the tariff committee of the National Manufacturers' Association, called to discuss general tariff matters.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

## He Will Do His Duty

Chester Rowell: "President Hoover will do his duty, whether it is popular or not. This nation is coming out of its disaster, and he is helping it out. The long-time verdict of history on his policy is already assured, and the short-time verdict of politics is getting clearer. Providence has given us, in these war and post-war years, the successive Presidents we wanted and deserved. In Hoover it has given us even better than that—the Hoover we elected, for the tasks which we anticipated and which other Hoovers, now called into action out of the background of his earlier career by the crisis which we did not anticipate. The perspective of history will give us perhaps unmerited praise for having chosen wiser than we knew."

## Florida Stands By Hoover

That President Hoover retains his remarkable hold on the South is indicated by the fact that the first formal endorsement of his candidacy for 1932 comes from the Republicans of Florida who on October 17 adopted resolutions asking for his re-nomination. The resolutions read in part:

"The fearless and courageous stand taken by him in this great economic crisis which the entire world has experienced has been a deciding factor in stabilizing world business, and has prevented world chaos."

The national is expected to buy gold bonds of the corporation to an amount equal to 2 1/2% of its net demand and time deposits. This will give the credit corporation a capital of something like a million dollars which will be available to

## A Message From the President

Calling upon the country to support him in the effort he is making to reduce the federal budget, the President said: "I have received the proposals of the high officials of the Navy for plans for reduction of expenditures. They are being considered in the full light of maintained efficiency of the department. Such studies and revisions are equally in progress in every other department of the government. The proposals of all the departments will require study and consideration. No conclusions have been reached on any particular proposed expenditure or economy. Final decision will not be reached until the final budget is presented to Congress. All of the principal officers of the government are cooperating to bring about reductions. In times when the income of the people is reduced and when taxes or loans may stifle economic recovery there is only one course of sound fiscal policy, and that is to reduce the expenditure of the government to the last cent consonant with the obligations of the government."

"There are two great difficulties which confront us in programs of reduced expenditures. The first is the very large proportion of federal expenditures that are irrevocable. We must meet interest payments on the statutory redemption of the public debt; we must pay allowances and pensions to veterans and pensions to civil servants, etc. Thus over two billion of the federal budget is in fixed obligations, and such reductions as we can bring about must need be concentrated on less than one-half of the budget."

"The second difficulty is that the Federal Government must make its contribution to expanded employment so long as the present situation continues."

"I fully realize that while governmental economy as a whole is strongly desired by the public, yet every variety of expenditure has its adherents throughout the country, all of whom are naturally solicitous that their special project should be continued even in times of national difficulty, and they are impatient of reduction or deferment or delays of their projects. Public opinion in support of drastic economies will need to reach into these directions. It must extend also to discouragement of special interests desirous of securing new expenditures for the special projects. The essential services of the government must and will be maintained but these are times when with the large deficit facing the country even meritorious projects can, must and will be deferred."

## Paving Federal Costs

Americans who hope that federal expenses will be reduced and that federal taxes will not be increased—and who do not cherish this hope—must observe with distinct approval the efforts of President Hoover to balance the budget. Early in the summer he held conferences with one after another of the department heads urging upon them the necessity of reducing their estimates for the coming year to the lowest possible figure. Twice recently he declared that all individuals, organizations and factions ought to cooperate for the reduction of federal expenses now and in the near future. It is generally conceded that his appeal to the Legion at the Detroit Convention prevented that organization from making a demand which, translated into law, would have laid a burden of two billion dollars upon the Treasury. Within the past few days he has announced in most vigorous fashion his desire that expenditures in the navy be restricted to the absolute minimum consistent with national safety. If the country escapes increased federal taxation during the coming year the credit will go to the President.

## Industry Goes With Tariffs

Critics of the Hawley-Smoot bill who have charged it with responsibility for "driving American industries abroad" must have noted recent news dispatches with a good deal of surprise. These dispatches report that more than one hundred manufacturers of this country now export goods to the United Kingdom have inquired of the American Chamber of Commerce in London as to the advisability of establishing branch plants

## Farmers Not Insolvent

Nobody questions the sincerity or the good intent of those who, in public speech or in printed editorials and articles, deplore the depressed condition of agriculture and demand relief. But isn't there danger that these expressions of sympathy and demands for relief, accompanied as they always are by declarations that unless something is done about it right away, bankruptcy is inevitable, will react against the farmers and do them more harm than any conceivable "relief" could do them good?

From many sections of the country come reports that farmers are finding difficulty in renewing their loans or in making new loans to carry on their industry. Is it surprising that this should be the case in view of the fact that for ten years past it has been dimmed into the ears of the public, bankers and loan companies included, that nobody can make any money farming, that year after year agricultural operations have been carried on at a loss?

Suppose some Member of Congress should make a campaign declaiming in all his speeches that all the merchants in his district were on the verge of bankruptcy, that for years they had been doing business at a loss and were certain to fail soon unless they could have help from the government. And suppose all the newspapers in the district should back up the Congressman in such a campaign. In the first place, isn't it certain that the merchants would indignantly protest that such a campaign was ruining their credit and hurting their business? And in the second place, in case the campaign were continued, isn't it certain that it would ruin the credit and hurt the business of the merchants?

But that is precisely what has been happening to the farmers all over America for ten years. Is it any wonder the price of farm lands is low? Who would

expect to have a farmer whom sold to, and















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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

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VOL. II

Washington, D. C. November 26, 1931

No. 23

## News and Comment By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that if run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C.—When letters or packages committed to the mails are addressed to people who cannot be found or the addresses so illegibly written that they cannot be deciphered or the packages so poorly wrapped that the address is lost, all such letters and packages come to Washington to what is known as the Dead Letter Office. And they come by the thousand every day. So that twice a year Uncle Sam assumes the role of auctioneer and sells the accumulated stuff to the highest bidder for cash in hand. Such an occasion was held here Thursday of last week and brought in \$1800. The packages are sold unwrapped with the result that in most cases it is just a blind gamble on the part of the bidder and naturally there are disappointments, as well as occasional agreeable surprises. The disappointed bidder last week probably went to the man who, five times in succession, was high bidder on packages that proved to be made up of infant wear. But the amazing thing growing out of these occasions is the variety of articles committed to the mails—hair pins, oil cans, nut crackers, false teeth, gardeners, kitchen ranges, wrist watches, fraternity pins, graphophone records, artificial flowers, hair removers, hair wavers and of course no end of books, beads, clairs and coins.

"At a moment in which every nation is trying to overcome the difficulties arising from one of the most widespread and severe crises with which the world

## The British Tariff

With that utter disregard for fact which seems to be characteristic of them, critics of the American system of protection are now pointing with great glee to the newly established British emergency tariff and declaring it is another act of "reprisal" against the Hawley-Smoot law. The truth is that the duties Great Britain has put temporarily into effect will apply only to manufactured and semi-manufactured goods of which we supply to Great Britain a very small percentage. Agricultural products and raw materials which make up the bulk of British imports from this country are not included in the tariff so that American trade with Britain will not be seriously affected.

As every fair-minded and informed man knows, the new tariff in Great Britain is simply an effort on the part of the government of that country to balance imports and exports, and to prevent dumping. It is purely a domestic policy brought about by a domestic policy brought about by domestic conditions without the remotest thought of reprisal toward the United States or anybody else.

## Golden Sees Brighter Days

John Golden, whose profits from "Lightnin'" "Seventh Heaven" and a dozen other clean plays made him one of America's wealthiest showmen, believes that brighter days are "just around the corner" for the legitimate theatre and by the same token for everybody else. After a lapse of four years he has resumed sending companies on the road. "I think we have touched bottom in the depression," says the producer, "and with a gradual return to normal conditions in trade and employment a revived and happy public will seek relaxation in the theatre." Long rated as

## Cutting Expenses

At a time when the treasury deficit is growing at the rate of \$6,000,000 to \$7,000,000 a day is it not a matter of interest to taxpayers that the country has a President who insists on rigid economy in Federal expenditures? By the direct action of President Hoover the budget which will be presented to Congress will be \$350,000,000 below the original department estimates. And the cut will be made without eliminating a single essential Government service or in any degree diminishing the efficiency of any Government function. Consider, for example, the cut in the Army appropriation. Ten million a year is to be trimmed from the appropriation for rations and other subsistence incident to the decline in commodity prices. Twenty millions can be lopped off by retarding the permanent housing program and another ten millions by reducing purchases of aircraft, munitions and other equipment. Forty millions can be saved in this one department and yet leave the army with fighting strength unimpaired and the rivers and harbors and other non-military activities of the department untouched. And so it goes through all the departments. Just as in a period of prosperity every family spends more than is really necessary to its bare maintenance, so in easy times the Government spends more than its bare necessities require. And just as in a period of limited income every family reduces its expenditures to its necessities, so in a similar period, under wise leadership, the Government cuts its costs to the sum necessary to carry on its necessary work.

## Business Beating Back

Returning legislators assembling for the meeting of Congress December 7 are almost without exception optimistic over better business prospects, reporting decided gains in the last few weeks in their states and districts.

At Detroit, W. J. McAnaney, president of the Hudson Motor Car Company, told 300 Hudson and Essex distributors that more than 2,000 men were given employment in the Company plans last week and that within the next few weeks 7,000 additional men will be

## Sayings of Poor Richard, Jr.

As Reported by Victor Rosewater

While progress is the order of the day, the lessons of the past are not without profit for him who hath discernment to heed.

A recent book declareth that business graft putteth political graft to shame. But graft, defileth whatever nest it breedeth in and inviteth destruction regardless of its disguise, for it becometh neither business nor politics. All things in their order; Inflation—

## Farm Outlook Brightens

Within three weeks following President Hoover's announcement of his six-point plan for the rehabilitation of American credits grain prices advanced to new high points for the current crop. Agricultural authorities estimate that in these three weeks the increased value of wheat has been \$11,723,600; corn \$339,300,000, and oats \$69,120,000, or a total increase in value of these three major crops of \$326,043,600. All other farm products increased relatively and their total would probably add several hundred million dollars more to the increased value of wheat, corn and oats.

Most significant of all, every class of business has apparently taken its cue from the remarkable upturn in grain prices, while the credit structure of the country is in better shape than it has been since the breakdown of the New York Stock Exchange two years ago.

In all past major depressions it was agriculture that led the way back to normalcy. Perhaps history is repeating itself.

## The Hoovers in China

Washington Star: President and Mrs. Hoover are taking more than ordinary interest in the stirring events now transpiring in Tientsin. It was 31 years ago, when the Boxer Rebellion was making in China, that the young American mining engineer and his wife were living at the port which is once again the scene of disorder and bloodshed. The Hoovers found themselves in the very thick of things. The present President of the United States was put in charge of defensive operations in the American quarter, with special duties in the direction of protecting stores, railways and the

## The People Must Help

That President Hoover is doing everything he can to cut down government expenses and therefore to avoid the necessity of additional taxes everybody knows. But if his efforts are to meet with success he must have the support of Congress and the cooperation of the people. In a recent statement the President said:

"The departmental budgets for the fiscal year beginning next July have proved far enough to enable me to state that appropriations which will be proposed to the Congress will show a reduction of at least \$350,000,000 below that of original departmental requests. Every department in the government is cooperating; every item has been cut; every item postponed that can be done without injury to the fundamental purpose of the departments and the efficiency of the services. As nearly half the expenditures of the government are for interest, sinking fund, veterans services and other items which are irreducible, this cut represents most earnest cooperation by all the departments of the government in their endeavor to meet the necessities of the taxpayer and the present economic situation.

"Again I wish to refer to the many sectional interests throughout the country who are asking us to increase expenditures. Such action can only embarrass the earnest efforts of the administration and the Congress to maintain our governmental finance on a sound basis. Many new plans of different sections, meritorious in themselves, must be deferred until the country can afford to pay for them. Nothing will contribute more to the return of prosperity than to maintain the sound fiscal position of the federal government."

Juncton City Union: Speaking of hard times: Thirty-nine years ago a



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# Republican National Committee Weekly Letter

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CHARLES F. SCOTT,  
Editor.

The nation has grown to complete confidence in the efficiency, ability, and character of the President. We have confidence in the President's great responsibility for the Red Cross, the national symphony, for all those overstrung by catastrophe of storm, of flood, of failure, its call to charity to meet these emergencies in the mandate upon the heart of the nation.  
—President Hoover.

VOL. II

Washington, D. C., December 3, 1931

No. 24

## News and Comment

By CHARLES F. SCOTT

(Note to the editor: Of course this column is to be used in any way you like; but it is suggested that it run as a Washington news letter it be given a Washington date line.)

Washington, D. C. — The Honorable John J. Raskob, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, who holds a mortgage on the Democratic party to the amount of some \$350,000, and who staged a near-riot at the meeting of the Democratic National Committee last March by suggesting that it recommend to the national convention a plank to repeal the 18th Amendment and remit the control of liquor traffic to the various states, has again broken on to the front pages of the newspapers. This time it is with a questionnaire addressed to the 90,000 men and women who contributed to the 1928 Democratic campaign fund requesting them to write to him saying whether they did not think it would be a good idea to have the next Democratic platform declare in favor of submitting the question of the prohibition amendment to the people of the states at the next general election so that they might have an opportunity to express their approval or disapproval. Immediately trouble broke out and protests were numerous. Senator Connally, of Texas, allowed the papers to quote him as declaring the course Mr. Raskob was following was one "calculated to disrupt and divide the party strength instead of promoting its success." Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, the Democratic leader, also entered his protest declaring that the next campaign should be fought on economic issues and not on the 18th Amendment. There were others.

## Are You a Thoroughbred?

The weakest thing in America today, remarks a shrewd observer, is not the stock market, is not wheat, is not cotton, is not sugar, is not copper, is not rubber; the weakest thing in America today is our state of mind and the observer goes on to say that the biggest fortunes in America were founded during times of panic. Rockefeller got his great start in standard oil at such a time. Andrew Carnegie's early partners forsook him by one when the steel industry became acutely unprofitable, but little Andy did not run away. Henry Clay Frick did not run away back in '73 borrowed money right and left and bought square miles of coal lands when everybody wanted to sell and in a few years his profits exceeded a million dollars a year.

It has been said that the difference between the thoroughbred horse and the scrub is that the scrub goes until it cannot go another mile, whereas the thoroughbred goes until it cannot go another mile—then goes that other mile.

The thoroughbreds among men in the business world are the ones who will come out of the business recession of the past two years stronger and richer than ever—because they have kept on going when others have stopped.

## Hoover the Leader

Apopka (Fla.) Chief:

Since the moment that the present depression assumed such proportions that it threatened to overwhelm and destroy the social, economic and political establishments of the world, President Hoover, through a succession of brilliant accomplishments, has achieved a position of universal leadership. In ev-

## What the Debenture Would Do

Those who are looking to the export debenture or the equalization fee as a sure fire relief for the farmers should be interested in a cablegram which has lately been received by Secretary Hyde from the president of the Liverpool Cotton Exchange. The message reads:

"The proposal for subsidizing exports of American cotton by means of a debenture or similar measures has already disrupted dealings with mills and is preventing buyers of manufactured goods from placing orders thereby seriously contributing to the world-wide depression in the cotton industry."

"In the same way importers are being seriously hindered from buying. It is obvious that such uncertainty is gravely limiting the purchase of the present cotton crop until something definite is known of the views and intentions of the American government."

Other cablegrams from European cotton associations in Manchester, Havre, Bremen, Barcelona, Milan and Rotterdam are all to the same effect. They indicate that the very fact that such measures as the export debenture and the equalization fee are being discussed, both of which in effect are subsidies of American exports, are now acting to disrupt the buying of cotton by European mills and are preventing buyers of manufactured cotton goods from placing orders. In other words, the adoption of these measures would be harmful instead of helpful to American agriculture. The mere suggestion that they may be adopted already is operating to prevent the sales of cotton abroad.

In reply to these cables Secretary Hyde has stated that the present administration of this government has repeatedly opposed the enactment of such measures and will continue to do so, and he believes it inconceivable that Congress would take any action the benefits of which would accrue to the buyers rather than to the producers of American cotton.

Certainly those who have been urging these measures should take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

## Women Keep Faith

Rapid City (S. D.) Journal: The economic and political troubles and turmoil of the past year have not

## More Than Hoped

Chicago Journal of Commerce: President Hoover's plan for a credit pool to bolster public faith in the weaker banks

## Farmers Will Remember

The Underwood bill, a Democratic measure passed in 1913, put virtually all agricultural products on the free list. Almost immediately after the act became effective the World War started, European nations abandoned agriculture, and for six or seven years American farmers produced the world's food and sold it at a rich profit. But within the three years after the war it was realized that European agriculture was coming back and with the unanimous consent of American farmers a Republican Congress passed an emergency tariff act in 1922, the chief purpose of which was to restore the tariff on agricultural products which the Underwood law had stricken down. After an experience of eight years it was realized that even the rates carried in the law of 1922 on agricultural products were not sufficiently high to afford adequate protection, and the law of 1930 was enacted, advancing agricultural rates on an ad valorem basis 31.6% higher than those of the emergency law of 1922.

This is a brief bit of tariff history which the farmers of America would do well to remember when they are asked to place in power a party which seems determined to make its chief issue the downward revision of the tariff.

## Consideration For Workers

It is to the credit of big business in America that during the past two years greater consideration has been shown for the workers than in any other period of economic dislocation through which the country has ever passed. In former times, with the first appearance of dull days, wages have been ruthlessly slashed, or employees have been discharged by

## Tariff Rates Too Low

A few days ago the last of a group of potteries in Ohio went to the wall discharging 500 men after a valiant but vain fight to meet European competition. Those in touch with American industries estimate that more than a million people in this country are jobless in the oil, lumber, glass and pottery industries because of inability of these industries to stand up against the flood of importations from other countries, either by reason of no tariff at all, as in the case of oil and certain classes of lumber, and of too low duties on glass and pottery. In an address recently Senator James J. Davis, of Pennsylvania, told of an importation of 12,000 tons of finished wire products from Europe at prices with which American factories could not compete. Within the past month representatives of American glass industries have told the Tariff Commission that the new Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York bought its glassware from an European plant because its bid was 25% to 30% below the prices American manufacturers could possibly make.

In the face of such object lessons as these certainly the dullest can see what a blow would be struck at American industry if the duties in the Hawley-Smoot law are revised downward as Democratic leaders have insisted they must be.

The simple truth is that the duties in the Hawley-Smoot law have been automatically reduced since the bill was enacted to a point where many of them are far below the protection line. In the first place, American wages have doubled in the past fifteen years, while European wages have remained stationary or have actually been reduced since the war. Only a few days ago England reduced wages 20% by the simple expedient of cutting the value of the national currency, and in many other countries wages have been reduced by the same process. The fact that our imports, con-



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• **VOTERS DON'T RETIRE...**

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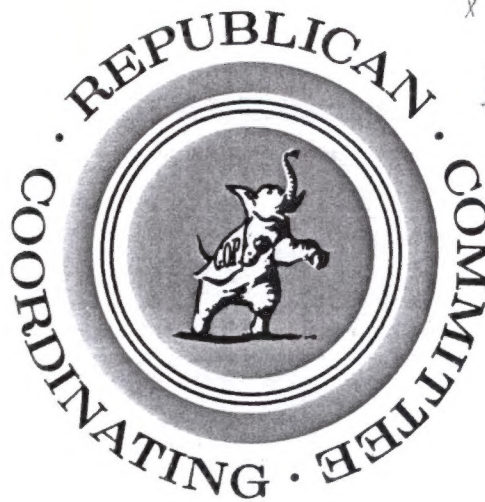


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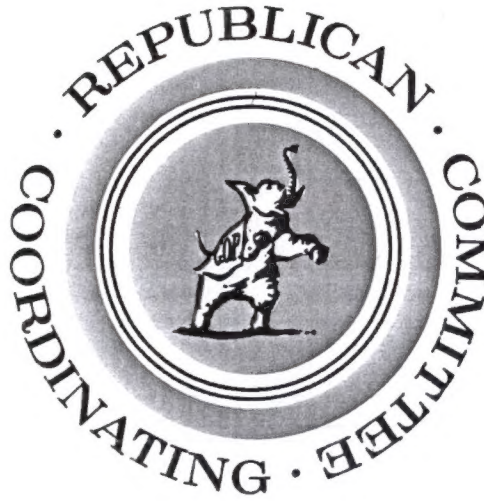
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**THE  
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RESPONSE**

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